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## McConnell: GOP will start impeachment trial, delay witnesses

By LISA MASCARO, MARY CLARE JALONICK and ALAN FRAM

**Associated Press**  
**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said Tuesday he has the votes to start President Donald Trump's impeachment trial as soon as House Speaker Nancy Pelosi releases the documents, winning support from GOP senators to postpone a decision on calling


witnesses. The announcement is significant, enabling McConnell to bypass for now Democratic demands for new testimony as he launches the third impeachment trial in the nation's history on his preferred terms. It could begin this week if Pelosi sends the articles of impeachment to the Senate.

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Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., arrives for a closed meeting with fellow Republicans as he strategizes about the looming impeachment trial of President Donald Trump, at the Capitol in Washington, Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2020.

Associated Press



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**Continued from Front**

She is set to meet late Tuesday with her leadership team.

"We have the votes," McConnell told reporters. He said the question of new witnesses and documents will be addressed later "and not before the trial begins." The contours of a Senate trial have been in dispute. Pelosi is delaying transmission of the articles as Democrats press to hear from former national security adviser John Bolton and other new witnesses. McConnell has resisted and prefers speedy acquittal. The GOP leader told senators at their closed-door lunch Tuesday that he has support for his plan, outlined in an organizing resolution that would be modeled after President Bill Clinton's impeachment trial 20 years ago. It would start the trial first and postpone votes on witnesses



**Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., arrives at the Capitol in Washington, Tuesday Jan. 7, 2020, as Democrats prepared largely symbolic resolutions under the War Powers Act to limit the president's military actions regarding Iran.**

**Associated Press**

until later in the process. "He has 51 (votes), for sure," said Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., a top ally of the president, exiting the meeting. Republicans hold the majority in the Senate, 53-47. In withholding the articles,

Pelosi gave Democrats an opportunity to ramp up pressure on Republicans not to go along with McConnell's proposal. Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer called McConnell's plan a "trap" and a "cover-up." "Whoever heard of a trial without witnesses and documents?" the New York Democrat said. He asked Trump what he has to hide. "Witnesses and documents: fair trial. No witnesses and documents: cover-up." Republicans countered that Democrats rushed to impeach and then delayed the process. Pelosi has yet to choose House impeachment managers for the trial, a politically sensitive next step, with many lawmakers vying to be candidates. The House impeached the president last month on the two charges. Just four GOP senators would be needed to deny McConnell his majority, but he appears to have locked up the votes. GOP leaders were conducting a whip count Tuesday to gauge support. Several GOP senators have indicated they want to hear from Bolton and other witnesses, but they are nevertheless standing with McConnell's plan for starting the trial.

Sen. Mitt Romney, R-Utah, said Tuesday that the Clinton process "provided a pathway" to start the trial and consider witnesses "down the road." He said he supports it.

"I'm comfortable with that process," Romney said. "And at this stage, I'd like to hear from John Bolton and other witnesses with the right information, but that process will accommodate that."

Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, has also said she supports McConnell's approach. Others say they are not sure they even need to hear from Bolton or other witnesses, blaming the House for not forcing them to testify. Trump had instructed White House officials not to comply with the House investigation.

"It's not that I don't want to hear from him," said Sen. Thom Tillis, R-N.C. "I want to hear from him when the House is willing to do their work and have the same agreement with the ambassador on their side of the Hill."

Trump faces charges that he abused the power of the presidency by pressuring Ukraine's new leader to investigate Democrats, using as leverage \$400 million in military assistance that is critical for the ally as it counters Russia at its border.

The funding for Ukraine was eventually released but only after Congress intervened.

From the Oval Office, where Trump was meeting with the prime minister of Greece, he railed against the impeachment proceedings, as he often does, as "a totally partisan hoax witch hunt."

Trump insisted "there was absolutely nothing done wrong" in his interactions with Ukraine.

Republicans are expected to swiftly acquit Trump of

the charges, but Democrats say fresh evidence, including Bolton's willingness to testify, only increases pressure for new witnesses and documents.

Bolton apparently compared the administration's actions toward Ukraine to a "drug deal" he wanted no part of, a shadow diplomacy being concocted by the acting White House chief of staff Mick Mulvaney and Ambassador to the European Union Gordon Sondland, according to House testimony. Bolton left the administration in September.

Democrats also want documents about the withheld aid to Ukraine that the White House refused to turn over to House investigators, defying congressional subpoenas.

With a 53-seat majority, McConnell has only loose control over the impeachment proceedings, where decisions on witnesses or documents can be made with a 51-vote majority.

Pressure will mount on senators up for reelection from swing states in 2020, including Collins, Tillis, Iowa GOP Sen. Joni Ernst and Colorado GOP Sen. Cory Gardner, who are being closely watched for their votes by a deeply divided country. Protesters are showing up at the Capitol.

McConnell deflected a question Tuesday on whether Trump acted appropriately with Ukraine, saying he had nothing more to add on that issue. He acknowledged the votes on witnesses and documents will be "the most contentious" part of the proceedings. "There will be, I'm sure, intense discussion," he said. The GOP leader has come under criticism for saying he was not an impartial juror but rather was working in total coordination with the White House on the trial strategy. □

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## Boeing now saying pilots need simulator training for 737 Max

By DAVID KOENIG  
AP Airlines Writer

Boeing said Tuesday it is recommending that pilots receive training in a flight simulator before the grounded 737 Max returns to flying, a reversal of the

sford. "The FAA is following a thorough process, not a set timeline, to ensure that any design modifications to the 737 Max are integrated with appropriate training and procedures," Lunsford

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training was needed. However, families of victims of the two crashes lobbied for simulator training, arguing that pilots need to experience how the Max differs from previous versions of the 737.

"Of course this should be required," Nadia Milleron, a Massachusetts woman whose daughter, Samya Stumo, died in the March 2019 Max crash in Ethiopia, said after Boeing's announcement. "Passengers should not have to push for basic safety standards." Similarly, the chairman of a congressional panel investigating Boeing said the company's endorsement of simulator training was welcome but overdue. □



In this Dec. 11, 2019, file photo, an United Airlines Boeing 737 Max airplane takes off in the rain at Renton Municipal Airport in Renton, Wash.

Associated Press

company's long-held position that computer-based training alone was adequate.

The recommendation is based on changes to the plane, results from tests involving a small number of pilots, and a commitment to the safe return of the Max, Boeing said.

The final decision on the nature of training will be up to the Federal Aviation Administration and regulators in other countries. The FAA said it will consider Boeing's recommendation but also rely on upcoming further tests using pilots from U.S. and foreign airlines.

Those tests are designed to help regulators determine flight training and emergency procedures, said FAA spokesman Lynn Lunsford.

said. The 737 Max has been grounded worldwide since last March after two crashes killed 346 people. Boeing is making changes to flight-control software and other systems in a bid to get the plane back in the air.

Boeing long held that pilots who can fly older 737s only needed a computer course — roughly an hour-long course on a tablet — to fly the Max. That helped airlines avoid timely and costly training in simulators. Boeing even offered to pay Southwest Airlines a rebate of \$1 million per plane if pilots needed simulator training before flying the Max.

Last year, an FAA technical advisory board sided with Boeing and recommended that only computer-based

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President Donald Trump speaks during a meeting with Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis in the Oval Office of the White House, Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2020, in Washington.

Associated Press

## Trump pressed to detail what prompted strike on Iran general

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Donald Trump and his top advisers are under pressure to disclose more details about the intelligence that led to an American airstrike that killed top Iranian Gen. Qassem Soleimani. Trump said Tuesday that his decision saved American lives and that members of Congress will get a briefing

on the reasons for the U.S. attack.

"We saved a lot of lives," Trump said. "They were planning something."

Hours later, Iran struck back, firing a series of surface-to-surface missiles at two Iraqi bases housing U.S. troops and warning the United States and its allies in the region not to retaliate. The White House said the president was monitoring the situation closely and consulting with his national security team.

So far, Trump and top national security officials have justified the airstrike with general statements about the threat posted by Soleimani, who commanded proxy forces outside Iran and was responsible for the deaths of American troops in Iraq. But the details have been scarce.

"He's no longer a monster. He's dead," Trump said. "And that's a good thing for a lot of countries. He was planning a very big attack and a very bad attack for us and other people and we stopped him and I don't think anybody can complain about it."

Soleimani was targeted while he was at an airport in Baghdad with Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis, a veteran Iraqi militant who also was killed.

Trump said they weren't in Baghdad to discuss vacation plans or visit a "nice resort," but were there to talk over "bad business."

The lack of detail doesn't sit well with Democrats, who recall how President George W. Bush justified his invasion of Iraq by accusing Saddam Hussein of having non-existent weapons of mass destruction. Lawmakers in recent days

have been pressing for more detail to explain why Trump ordered the killing — a decision that previous administrations passed up because of fears it would unleash even more violence.

Soleimani traveled frequently and relatively openly, with visits to Baghdad more frequent in recent months. He also often showed up in Syria, including along the border between Iraq and Syria.

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer and Sen. Bob Menendez, the top Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, have called on Trump to declassify the written notification he sent to Congress after the strike. The notification was required under the War Powers Resolution Act of 1973, which requires the president to report to Congress when American forces are sent into hostile situations.

"The president must come to Congress and present clear and compelling intelligence as to why the strike against Soleimani was absolutely necessary," Menendez said in a speech on the Senate floor. "In the wake of all its misleading statements we must make clear to the administration that the president by himself does not have the authority to launch a war against Iran."

Trump stressed that the strike was in retaliation for Iranian attacks and that the U.S. is prepared to attack again — "very strongly." He also said that while he eventually wants to pull U.S. troops out of Iraq, now is not the time because it would allow Iran to gain a bigger foothold there. □

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# Official quits amid charges he paid women to give up babies

By **JACQUES BILLEAUD**  
Associated Press  
**PHOENIX (AP)** — An elected official in metro Phoenix resigned Tuesday, months after being charged with running a human smuggling operation that paid pregnant women from the Marshall Islands to give up their babies in the U.S. The resignation of Maricopa County Assessor Paul Petersen came after leaders in the one of the nation's most populous counties suspended and pressured him to resign after his arrest nearly three months ago. The county's governing board voted in late December to start the process of removing Petersen, who also works as an adoption attorney. He is accused of illegally paying women from the Pacific island nation to come to the United States to give up their babies in at least 70 adoption cases in Arizona, Utah and Arkansas over three years. Citizens of the Marshall Islands have been prohibited from traveling to the U.S. for adoption purposes since 2003. In a statement released by his attorneys, Petersen proclaimed his innocence and said he never neglected his duties as assessor, responsible for determining the property values in the county. The Republican said coun-

ty officials and news organizations presumed he was guilty. "My focus now turns to defending the allegations against me," Petersen said. He is charged with human smuggling in Utah and Arkansas and defrauding Arizona's Medicaid system by \$800,000 by submitting false applications for the women to receive state-funded health coverage. Authorities say the women who went to Utah to give birth received little or no prenatal care. They also said Petersen and his associates took passports from the pregnant women while they were in the U.S. to assert more control over them. Petersen has pleaded not guilty to the charges in Arizona and Arkansas. He hasn't yet entered a plea in Utah. His attorneys have said Petersen ran a legal adoption practice and has been vilified before his side of the story comes out. They had argued that the county governing board had no basis for suspending him. County Supervisor Steve Gallardo said Petersen has only himself to blame for his actions. "He took advantage of these vulnerable women for his own personal greed, and he did it on county time," Gallardo said.

Kory Langhofer, one of Petersen's attorneys, said his client had to choose between focusing his time and money on holding onto his office or preserving his liberty. "It's an unfair choice, but he has ultimately chosen to focus on the criminal allegations, rather than his job," Langhofer said. □



In this Nov. 15, 2019, file photo, Maricopa County Assessor Paul Petersen leaves court in Salt Lake City.

Associated Press

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## Lawsuit seeks to ease adoption of Equal Rights Amendment

By **STEVE LeBLANC**

**BOSTON (AP)** — Supporters of the Equal Rights Amendment have filed a federal lawsuit in Massachusetts aimed at clearing a legal path for adoption of the long-delayed constitutional amendment.

Backers say they're wading into the debate over the amendment — which dates to the early 1970s — because Virginia is poised to become the decisive 38th state to approve the measure.

Amendments are added to the U.S. Constitution if they are approved by three-quarters of state legislatures. The anticipated approval of the amendment by Virginia would put the ERA over that threshold.

But the process is likely to hit some snags. One of the biggest is a measure passed by Congress in 1972, attaching a 1979 ratification deadline to it. That was later extended to 1982. The lawsuit filed Tuesday in U.S. District Court in Boston argues, in part, that the deadline imposed by Congress was not included in the text of the three-sentence amendment — and therefore not constitutionally binding. The original legislation that sent the proposed amendment to states for ratification did refer to a seven year deadline, but supporters



**Kamala Lopez, right, president of Equal Means Equal, faces reporters as Natalie White, left, vice president of the organization, looks on during a news conference, Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2020, in Boston, held to address issues about a lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court.**

Associated Press

of the ERA say all that matters is the language of the amendment itself, which makes no mention of a deadline.

The group also points to the case of the Constitution's 27th Amendment, which was written by James Madison in 1789 to bar Congress from voting itself instant pay raises. That amendment was not adopted until 203 years later — far longer than the adoption process for the ERA.

The ERA states that "equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or

abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex."

Despite the legal hurdles, advocates of the amendment in Virginia are already planning to celebrate its passage — made possible after Democrats seized control of the state Legislature in November.

But efforts are underway to block its ultimate adoption as the Constitution's 28th Amendment, including a lawsuit filed in federal court in mid-December by Alabama, Louisiana and South Dakota. Conserva-

tive activists have depicted the ERA as a threat to their stances on abortion and transgender rights.

Lawsuits could also be waged over attempts by five states to rescind their initial support for the amendment.

"This lawsuit was filed today to make sure that no roadblocks are put in place to prevent women's equality from becoming part of the United States Constitution," said Wendy Murphy, a lawyer for Equal Means Equal, one of the groups that filed the lawsuit in Massachusetts.

Murphy said the groups were compelled to file the lawsuit in response to the one filed by Alabama, Louisiana and South Dakota.

"Now that we are on the verge of winning the final state needed to ensure women's equality it is shock-

ing and deeply disturbing that attorneys general in three states" are trying to block the amendment, she added.

Anti-abortion activists worry that the ERA, if ratified, would be used by abortion-rights supporters to quash restrictions on grounds they specifically discriminate against women.

Some ERA opponents are also worried that the amendment would be used to ensure nationwide protections for transgender women seeking to use women-only restrooms and locker rooms.

Supporters say both concerns are unfounded.

Massachusetts was among the first batch of states to approve the Equal Rights Amendment in the early 1970s.

After voting to ratify the amendment, Virginia is expected to submit copies of the state's resolution to the U.S. archivist David S. Ferriero to be recorded — something opponents are trying to block.

Ferriero released a statement last month saying the National Archives and Records Administration is requesting guidance from the Department of Justice on ratification of the ERA. Ferriero pointed to issues raised in the lawsuit filed by Alabama, Louisiana, and South Dakota.

"NARA does not intend to take any action regarding the ERA until, at a minimum, it receives the guidance it previously requested and in no event before February 15, 2020," the statement said.

Both lawsuits name Ferriero as the defendant. □

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This Monday, Jan. 6, 2020, photo provided by Aaron Mercurief shows lava flowing from a vent on the Shishaldin Volcano, as seen from Cold Bay, Alaska about 58 miles North East of Shishaldin.

Associated Press

## Aleutian volcano spews up ash cloud in two strong bursts

By DAN JOLING  
Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)

— A volcano in Alaska's Aleutian Islands spewed ash into flight paths, prompting a warning to pilots by the National Weather Service.

Shishaldin Volcano erupted at 5 a.m. Tuesday, the Alaska Volcano Observatory announced, and sent up an initial ash cloud to 19,000 feet (5791.2 meters). Clouds initially obscured the mountain, but satellite imagery confirmed the ash cloud, U.S. Geological Survey geophysicist Hans Schwaiger said.

Seismicity diminished for a few hours, but it then increased again. During the increase, the volcano spewed an ash cloud to 25,000 feet (7,620 meters), the observatory an-

nounced. The later eruption increased the volume of ash.

Wind continued to push the ash cloud northeast into the eastern Bering Sea and away from jet airliners flying between North America and Asia.

However, the National Weather Service upgraded its alert level to a warning. Trace amounts of ash were expected to fall on communities as far away as Sand Point about 140 miles (225 kilometers) east of the volcano.

Seismic activity greatly diminished after noon.

The eruptions were confirmed by lighting and satellite data, the observatory said. More explosions could occur or activity could significantly decrease with little warning, according to the observatory. □



In this Sept. 3, 2009 file photo, Mexico's then Federal Secretary of Public Safety, Genaro García Luna speaks during an interview with the Associated Press in Mexico City.

Associated Press

## Mexico former top cop in NY plea talks over drug bribe case

By CLAUDIA TORRENS

NEW YORK (AP)

— Mexican former top security official Genaro García Luna is in talks on a possible plea agreement with federal prosecutors in New York, where he is charged with accepting millions in drug-money bribes from the notorious Sinaloa cartel of convicted kingpin Joaquín "El Chapo" Guzmán.

A court document filed Monday says lawyers for García Luna and prosecutors are engaged in negotiations, "which they believe are likely to result in a disposition of this case without trial," according to the filing signed by García Luna, his lawyer, a prosecutor and magistrate Judge Peggy Kuo.

García Luna, 51, was indicted in New York on three counts of cocaine trafficking conspiracy and a false statements charge. He pleaded not guilty on Friday.

Kuo ordered him detained after Assistant U.S. Attorney Erin Reid argued he would pose an "unacceptable risk of flight" if released. Garcia Luna's lawyer, Cesar de Castro, said he would ask the court at a later date for his client to be granted bail. A message seeking comment was sent to de Castro.

The former security chief was viewed as the point man for Mexico's drug war under then-President Felipe Calderón, who governed from 2006 to 2012. U.S. pros-

ecutors alleged in a court filing this month that García Luna had accepted "tens of millions of dollars" in bribes — often briefcases full of cash — to protect the cartel.

During Guzmán's 2018 trial in New York, jurors heard former cartel member Jesús Zambada testify that he personally made at least \$6 million in secret payments to García Luna on behalf of his older brother, cartel boss Ismael "El Mayo" Zambada.

The witness said he met García Luna in a restaurant between 2005 and 2006 and gave him a suitcase containing \$3 million. At that time García Luna was in charge of Mexico's Federal Investigation Agency. □



# Spain's Sanchez wins cliffhanger vote to form government

By CIARAN GILES  
BARRY HATTON  
Associated Press

**MADRID (AP)** — Spain's Socialist leader Pedro Sánchez scraped through a confidence vote Tuesday with hard-fought support from smaller parties, allowing him to form a new leftist coalition government and end almost a year of political limbo in the eurozone's fourth-largest economy. Sánchez's cliffhanger victory by just two votes in parliament — the final tally was 167-165, with 18 abstentions — was the slimmest for a prime minister candidate in decades. The left-wing United We Can party will be a junior partner in the coalition.

Sánchez needed the votes or abstention promise of an array of smaller parties to get past. His supporters in parliament erupted into a standing ovation when the result of the vote was announced in the Chamber of Deputies.

The hair-line margin of victory has raised doubts about how long the coalition government will last, as its policies require regular



Spain's caretaker Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez applauds at the Spanish parliament in Madrid Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2020.

parliamentary approval. A government term is normally four years. Arrayed against Sánchez's administration will be three main right-of-center parties.

Coalition governments are common in Europe, but it is Spain's first since the country returned to democracy in 1978, three years after

the death of long-time dictator Gen. Francisco Franco.

"A progressive coalition is going to govern because that is what Spaniards decided," Sánchez told the house before the vote.

Sánchez, 47, has been caretaker prime minister since early last year.

He is expected to sworn in Wednesday and hold his first Cabinet meeting of ministers Friday.

Sánchez's Socialists won two consecutive general elections in 2019, but both times they failed to capture a parliamentary majority. That meant they couldn't win the parliamentary

confidence vote that is required before taking office. In weeks of negotiations since the last election in November, Sánchez mustered enough support — or promises to abstain — from a handful of small regional parties to take power.

Andrew Dowling, an expert on Spanish contemporary politics at Cardiff University in Wales, said Sánchez attained power through "a very fragile agreement" with other parties and will now be "subject to intense political pressure" by his right-of-center political opponents.

"They're not going to give any quarter to this new government (which has) a very, very fragile majority. They are going to use all means necessary to prevent this government passing legislation," Dowling said in a telephone interview.

Dowling said he didn't expect any radical policies from the new administration, predicting it will present "a moderate social democratic program" focusing on workers' and women's rights. □

Associated Press

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## Greek PM says IMF to close its Athens offices within months

**ATHENS, Greece (AP)** — The International Monetary Fund will close its offices in Athens in coming months, a decade after it joined in a huge bailout program that kept Greece afloat, Greece's prime minister said Tuesday.

Kyriakos Mitsotakis said Greece would continue to cooperate with the IMF, but "as a country that has exited the IMF's strict surveillance framework." The planned move is seen as symbolic confirmation of the country's return to financial respectability.

Mitsotakis spoke following a meeting in Washington with the fund's new managing director, Kristalina Georgieva.

Greece required three bailouts from its partners in

the eurozone and the IMF starting in 2010, to avoid going bust. This became necessary after the country found itself unable to borrow in international money markets, following revelations that it had under-reported key financial data for years.

The bailout programs ended in August 2018, and the country has regained market access after a painful eight-year effort to right its finances - the rescue money came with strict conditions. During the bailout era, Greece saw unemployment spike sharply higher, while incomes were repeatedly slashed and taxes hiked.

Athens is still subject to post-bailout surveillance by its creditors. □





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## Germany, NATO moving soldiers out of Iraq amid tensions

**Associated Press**

**BERLIN (AP)** — Germany moved 35 soldiers serving in Iraq to neighboring Jordan and Kuwait on Tuesday, while NATO said it was also shifting some of its troops out of the country amid tensions over the U.S. killing of a top Iranian general in an airstrike in Baghdad last week.

The killing of Iranian Revolutionary Guard commander Qassem Soleimani has drastically raised regional tensions and escalated a crisis between Washington and Tehran.

German Defense Minister Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer and Foreign Minister Heiko Maas wrote to lawmakers that the troops in the Iraqi bases in Baghdad and Taji would be "temporarily thinned out," news agency dpa reported Tuesday. The two officials



**NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg speaks during a media conference after a meeting of The North Atlantic Council at Ambassadorial level at NATO headquarters in Brussels, Monday, Jan. 6, 2020.**

**Associated Press**

stressed that talks with the Iraqi government on a continuation of the mission to

train Iraqi troops would go on. Germany has a small con-

tingent of some 120 soldiers in Iraq, though the majority are not stationed in Taji and

Baghdad but elsewhere in Iraq.

NATO, meanwhile, said it was shifting some of its troops out of Iraq after Baghdad called for foreign forces to leave the country, but the U.S.-led military alliance hopes to return to continue training the Iraqi military if asked once calm is restored.

The 29-nation military organization has around 500 troops in Iraq — mostly from Canada, Spain and Turkey — who are helping to train and build Iraq's security forces so they can combat the Islamic State group alone. It wasn't immediately clear how many troops would be moved out.

"We have temporarily suspended our training on the ground, and we are taking all precautions necessary to protect our people," NATO said. □

## France calls on Britain to be flexible in post-Brexit talks

**By SYLVIE CORBET**

**PARIS (AP)** — French President Emmanuel Macron said Tuesday that Britain will need to show flexibility in negotiations that will follow the country's departure from the European Union on Jan. 31.

Macron said post-Brexit talks will focus on maintaining deep links on security and foreign policy and defending the EU's economic interests.

Macron said that in light of Prime Minister Boris Johnson's insistence that negotiations on the future have to be over by the year's end, Britain will need to show "flexibility in line with that ambitious schedule."

Macron made the comments in Paris ahead of a meeting with Croatian Prime Minister Andrej Plen-

kovic, at which discussions on the enlargement of the bloc will take place. France has been at odds with other EU members over the process by which Albania and North Macedonia can join the bloc, which after Britain's departure will total 27 countries.

Meanwhile in London, lawmakers were set to debate Johnson's Brexit withdrawal bill with the EU. Following December's general election at which his Conservatives won an 80-seat majority in the House of Commons, there is no doubt that the deal will pass and Britain will be on course to leave the EU on its scheduled departure date of Jan. 31.

Following its departure, Britain will remain within the EU's tariff-free single mar-



**French President Emmanuel Macron, right, shakes hands with Croatian Prime Minister Andrej Plenkovic at the Elysee Palace in Paris, Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2020.**

**Associated Press**

ket and customs union until the end of 2020. Though Britain has a one-off option to request an extension to this so-called transition period for a further two years, Johnson has insisted he won't be taking that up.

That means discussions over the future relationship on an array of issues, including trade and security, will have to be completed this year.

Johnson says that's more than enough time given

that the two sides are already so closely integrated. Others are more skeptical and think that only a bare-bones agreement could be forged in that limited time frame. If no agreement is reached and Johnson refuses to take up the option of the extension, then tariffs and other impediments on trade between the two sides will have to be put in place.

On Wednesday, Johnson is set to meet with European Commission President Ursula Von Der Leyen in London to begin the next stage of the Brexit discussions. So far, discussions have only centered on citizens' rights, Britain's divorce bill and maintaining an open border between EU member Ireland and Northern Ireland, which is part of the U.K. □



# Australian crews race to contain blazes as damage bill soars

## Associated Press

### BALMORAL, Australia (AP)

— Bolstered by cooler weather and desperately needed rain, exhausted firefighters in Australia raced to shore up defenses against deadly wildfires before the blazes flare again within days when scorching temperatures are expected to return.

The first hints of the financial toll from the disaster began to emerge on Tuesday. The Insurance Council of Australia said the estimated damage bill had doubled in two days, with insurance claims reaching 700 million Australian dollars (\$485 million).

That estimate comes one day after Prime Minister Scott Morrison said the government was committing



New South Wales Rural Fire Service crew watch as the casket of NSW RFS volunteer Andrew O'Dwyer arrives for his funeral service at Our Lady of Victories Catholic Church in Horsley Park, Sydney, Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2020.

an extra 2 billion Australian dollars (\$1.4 billion) toward

the recovery effort in addition to the tens of millions of

dollars that have already been promised. Morrison's funding announcement came amid fierce criticism from many Australians who say he has been too slow to respond to the crisis. He has also faced backlash for downplaying the need for his government to address climate change, which experts say helps supercharge the blazes.

The fires, fueled by drought and the country's hottest and driest year on record, have been raging since September, months earlier than is typical for Australia's annual wildfire season. So far, the blazes have killed 25 people, destroyed 2,000 homes and scorched an area twice the size of the U.S. state of Maryland. Three people in New South Wales state who were reported missing earlier Tuesday were later found, police said.

Across New South Wales, 130 fires were still burning on Tuesday, around 50 of which were uncontrolled. The day's cooler, rainier weather was providing thousands of weary firefighters a "psychological and emotional" reprieve as they scrambled to strengthen containment lines around the blazes before temperatures rise again, said Shane Fitzsimons, commissioner of the New South Wales Rural Fire Service.

"It really is about shoring

up protection to limit the damage potential and the outbreak of these fires over the coming days," he told the Australian Broadcasting Corp.

The rain was not heavy enough to extinguish the blazes. Victoria state Emergency Services Minister Lisa Neville said on Monday at least 200 millimeters (8 inches) of rain would need to fall in a short time to snuff out the fires — around 20 times what has fallen across the region in the past day. And officials warned that Australia's wildfire season — which generally lasts through March — was nowhere near its end.

The rain was also complicating firefighters' attempts to strategically backburn certain areas, and was making the ground slippery for fire trucks.

Anxious, weary and frustrated after living through months of fires already, many Australians have focused their fury on the prime minister, whose response to the crisis has been roundly criticized as lax, and at times, dismissive.

Morrison faced particularly fierce backlash for taking a family vacation to Hawaii in the midst of the disaster.

Helena Wong and her partner Justin Kam, who lost their home when fires swept through the town of Balmoral south of Sydney last month, were frustrated with what they say has been a slow, uncoordinated response to the fires and a lack of preparedness by the government.

"Disaster plans should have been put in place ahead of time, not after the fact when everybody's in a state of emergency and everybody's scrambling," Wong said. "Communication could be better. We are told different things by different people. ... We are a fire-prone country. Things should have been put in place."

Thousands of army, navy and air force reservists were being dispatched to battle the fires. On Tuesday, rescue crews were still trying to reach some affected communities. □

## Associated Press



## JOB OPPORTUNITY

The Aruba Beach Club Resort has a job opening for the General Manager's position.

### Resort General Manager

The Aruba Beach Club Resort, the **first** timeshare resort in Aruba with 131 guest rooms, is looking for someone to fill the General Manager's position.

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This job description in no way states or implies that these are the only duties to be performed by this employee. He or she will be required to follow any other requests or instructions and to perform any other duties requested by the Aruba Beach Club Board of Directors.

#### Email resumes to:

Kevin Foley, Chairman  
ABC Board of Directors  
< [teamboston911@aol.com](mailto:teamboston911@aol.com) >



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## India sets 2012 gang rape convicts' executions for Jan. 22

Associated Press

**NEW DELHI (AP)** — A death warrant was issued Tuesday for the four men convicted in the 2012 gang rape and murder of a young woman on a New Delhi bus that galvanized protests across India and brought global attention to the country's sexual violence epidemic. A New Delhi court scheduled the hangings for Jan. 22, the Press Trust of India news agency reported. The warrant has been anticipated since India's Supreme Court rejected one of the men's final review pleas last month. India's president can still intercede, but that is not expected to happen.

The victim, a 23-year-old physiotherapy student whom Indian media dubbed "Nirbhaya," or "Fearless," because Indian law prohibits rape victims from being identified, was heading home with a male



Asha Devi, mother of the victim of the fatal 2012 gang rape on a moving bus, speaks to the media as she leaves a court in New Delhi, India, Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2020.

Associated Press

friend from a movie theater when six men lured them onto a bus. With no one else in sight, they beat the man with a metal bar, raped the

woman and used the bar to inflict massive internal injuries to her.

The pair were dumped naked on the roadside,

and the woman died two weeks later.

The assailants were tried relatively quickly in a country where sexual assault

cases often languish for years. Four defendants were sentenced to death. Another hanged himself in prison before his trial began, though his family insists he was killed. The sixth assailant was a minor at the time of the December 2012 attack and was sentenced to three years in a reform home.

Swati Maliwal, the chair of the Delhi Commission for Women, applauded Tuesday's court announcement on Twitter.

"I salute her mother who has fought for so long," she tweeted. "It is a victory for all the fearless people of this country. This is the time to punish every rapist in the country so that a strong message is sent out."

The scheduled executions come amid a revived debate over sexual violence in India after several headline-grabbing cases in recent months. □

## Hong Kong to add mystery illness to reportable diseases

**HONG KONG (AP)** — Hong Kong's health chief said Tuesday that a respiratory illness whose cause remains unknown will be added to an official list of diseases that medical practitioners are required to report to the government.

The disease — an unidentified form of viral pneumonia — has sent 59 people to the hospital in the mainland Chinese city of Wu-

han, in central Hubei province. As of Sunday, seven were in critical condition, while the rest were stable. Municipal authorities have ruled out SARS, the severe acute respiratory syndrome that killed 700 people in 2002 and 2003.

In Hong Kong, a total of 15 patients were being treated Sunday for symptoms including fever and respiratory infection after recent

visits to Wuhan. It is not clear whether they have the same illness as the Wuhan patients.

Speaking at a news conference, the health chief, Sophia Chan, said the "severe respiratory disease associated with a novel infectious agent" will be added to a list of reportable infectious diseases in Hong Kong's Prevention and Control of Disease Ordinance.

The regulation enables the government to take stronger measures against the spread of certain diseases, such as tuberculosis and chicken pox. Actions under the ordinance could include enforcing quarantines or limiting the movement of people who are suspected to have infections.

"Under the amendment, medical practitioners will

have to report suspected cases as well as carry out appropriate investigations and follow-ups to the Center for Health Protection under the Department of Health," Chan said.

The U.S. Consulate General in Wuhan issued a health alert Tuesday for the pneumonia outbreak, warning travelers to Wuhan to avoid animals, as well as animal markets and products. □



## US family attacked on notorious stretch of Mexican highway

By **PORFIRIO IBARRA**  
**ALFREDO PEÑA**

**MONTERREY, Mexico (AP)**

— Mexican authorities continued searching Monday for the gunmen responsible for an attack on a sparsely traveled stretch of highway near the Texas border that left a 13-year-old U.S. boy dead and four relatives wounded.

On Saturday night, a family traveling in two vehicles was attacked on a two-lane highway paralleling the U.S.-Mexico border in the township of Ciudad Mier.

One SUV of attackers passed the family and then cut them off causing them to collide and come to a halt. Gunmen then opened fire, according to a statement from the state of Tamaulipas security coordinating group. All of the wounded came from one of the family's vehicles, both of which had Oklahoma license plates. The gunmen escaped in another vehicle.



A view of the University Hospital in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon state, Mexico, Monday, Jan. 6, 2020, where the survivors of an attack on a family in a car with Oklahoma license plates are being treated.

Associated Press

Prosecutors identified the boy who was killed as Oscar Castillo López.

A 10-year-old relative was among those wounded. They were all taken to a

hospital in Monterrey after initially being moved to a nearer small town hospital.

On Monday, Luis Enrique Orozco, a deputy in the Nuevo Leon state prosecu-

tor's office, said another boy was in critical condition along with a 48-year-old man. A 42-year-old woman was in stable condition, he said. The relation-

ship between the adults and the children was unclear, but Orozco said the two wounded adults were siblings.

Tamaulipas state prosecutors at one point said the boy who died was 14 years old.

The family was returning to the U.S. after spending the holidays in the border state of Nuevo Leon, where Monterrey is located. Some members of the family are originally from the central Mexico state of San Luis Potosi, while some were born in the United States.

What remained unclear was why the family was on such a dangerous stretch of highway after dark.

The area where the attack occurred is contested by drug cartels.

For years Ciudad Mier was the uppermost edge of the Gulf cartel's control and Nueva Ciudad Guerrero was the limit for the Nuevo Laredo-based Zetas'. Between them sits uninhabited scrub land. □

## Venezuela opposition leader takes new oath amidst standoff

By **FABIOLA SANCHEZ**

Associated Press

**CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)**

— Venezuelan opposition leader Juan Guaidó and lawmakers who back him pushed their way into the legislative building on Tuesday following an attempt by rival legislators to take control of the congress.

The man recognized by the U.S. and over 50 other nations as Venezuela's rightful president took his seat at the National Assembly and led opposition lawmakers in boisterously singing the country's anthem.

"This is a show of what can happen when we are united," Guaidó yelled.

Shortly thereafter electricity in the building went out, but lawmakers continued in the dimly lit assembly, shouting into microphones that did not work to declare Guaidó the president of the only opposition-controlled institution.

He was then sworn in, holding up his right hand in the ornate room and pledg-



Opposition leader Juan Guaidó speaks at the National Assembly in Caracas, Venezuela, Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2020.

Associated Press

ing "in the name of Venezuela" to continue fulfilling his responsibilities as self-declared interim president "and search for a solution to the crisis."

Venezuela's opposition is

facing its biggest test yet after government-backed lawmakers announced they were taking control of what Guaidó supporters have described as the nation's last democratic insti-

tution.

Guaidó has served as president of the National Assembly for the last year and used it as his platform to gain international recognition. He was expected to

be re-elected as the legislature's leader Sunday but was blocked along with several other lawmakers from entering congress.

Former opposition ally Luis Parra declared himself the National Assembly's leader, claiming to have won the votes of 81 lawmakers. The opposition refutes that tally and says 100 lawmakers, a majority, voted for Guaidó in a legislative session held at a Venezuelan newspaper.

Parra and his allies entered the National Assembly Tuesday ahead of Guaidó and began a session slated to discuss Venezuela's gas shortages, among other woes. But they left as opposition lawmakers forced their way through several barricades of national guardsmen wearing helmets and carrying shields.

"We want to regain Venezuela, damn it!" Guaidó said as he and dozens of lawmakers pushed their way onto the legislative grounds. □



## LOCAL



## First Survey of Arachnids (such as spiders and scorpions) on ABC Islands in over 100 years: 25 new records and 20 species new to science

KRALENDIJK, BONAIRE — A 2004-2005 study led by a researcher from the California Academy of Science worked to catalog arachnid species (such as spiders and scorpions) on Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao. This is the first study of its kind in over 100 years. The recently published results in the *Caribbean Journal of Science* showed 25 new species, which have not been previously described for the islands, and 20 new species to science. Understanding the local arachnid population is important as they represent a vital part of the ecosystem, crucial for maintaining balance by controlling insect populations.

Arachnids play an important role within the ecosystems of the ABC Islands. Although often seen as pests, these species are crucial in controlling insect populations. Knowing how important these creatures are, it's surprising to learn that there has only ever been one scientific survey documenting these species on the ABC islands, and it was written in 1887 (Van Hasselt, 1887). Since then, although there have been papers written on specific species, there has not been any surveys or inventories to fully describe the arachnid population.

### The Study

In order to provide an update to this 1887 survey, a research group collected arachnids over the course of 3 months (November 2004 - January 2005) from Bonaire and Curaçao. Arachnids on Aruba were collected over 2 days in October 2004. Specimens were collected from a variety of different areas including both urban and natural areas. The goal of the study was to collect specimens from different habitats to best capture a diverse representation of the species present on the islands (Crews et al., 2019).

### The Results

In the end, over 750 specimens were collected and identified, representing members from arachnid orders: Scorpiones, Amblypygi, Pseudoscorpiones, and Araneae. From this, there were 1 species of scorpion, 1 species of amblypygid



(tailless whip scorpion), 2 species of pseudoscorpions and 76 species of spiders. Furthermore, of these species, 25 were previously unknown to be present on these islands and 20 species were new to science. Unlike Bonaire and Curaçao which are separated from mainland South American by a deep oceanic trench, Aruba is connected to the South American Continent. In fact, plant and animal species on the island may be closely linked to their South American counterparts as it is believed Aruba was connected to the mainland during the last glacial sea-level drop 19.9 thousand years ago (Stienstra, 1991). Although it's difficult to say since specimens were only collected for 2 days, this study didn't find much overlap with the species of Curaçao and Bonaire. In addition, researchers identified two species which had not been previously described. It's possible, given more time to collect samples, additional specimens would have been documented increasing the overlap with the other two islands.

On all three islands, more specimens were collected within natural areas than urban areas. Curaçao had the greatest number of species documented, which could have been a result of specimens

being collected over a longer period of time and from more varied locations. In general, it is expected that Curaçao would have a more diverse ecosystem as the island has more varied vegetation types and plant species (De Freitas et al., 2005) along with greater elevational differences, higher annual rainfall, and less habitat degradation than Bonaire.

### Slave Trade Connection

CARMABI biological research station Curaçao managed to capture a gnaphosid

*Australoechemus celer* spider, a species previously known to only inhabit Cape Verde islands. The origin of this species is unclear. It could be that this spider represents a native population which may have been introduced long ago when slaves were kept on Cape Verde before being shipped to Curaçao. Or the other way around: introduced to the Cape Verde islands from Curaçao/South America (Brokken, 2015).

Arachnids play a very important role in the environment, and the first step to ensuring their future is to properly understand what species are present on each island. This study represents an important

start to updating the arachnid database, however, further research is required to fully describe the arachnids found on each of the islands. It is exciting to think what new species might be found, or what connections to other islands might be made given each island's rich history.

### Report your sightings:

Have you observed Arachnids (such as spiders and scorpions)?

Please report your sighting on the website [DutchCaribbean.Observation.org](http://DutchCaribbean.Observation.org)

Or download the free apps

This free website and free apps can be used not only by biologists but by all citizens to report any animals and plants and is available in more than 40 languages. It is now also being translated to Papiaments. The species reports by local communities are very valuable for the nature conservation organization to learn and protect the species on our islands. For more information contact [research@dcnana-ture.org](mailto:research@dcnana-ture.org)

For more information on Arachnids: Contact Sarah Crews at [screws@calacademy.org](mailto:screws@calacademy.org)

Twitter: @sarahnopidae

Instagram: @cas\_arachnerds

website: [sarahnopidae.com](http://sarahnopidae.com)



## The Kitchen Table enters fifth year of gastronomic success on NEW location: A very fine culinary journey of Caribbean and Peruvian fusion cuisine



**EAGLE BEACH — The Kitchen Table is an elegant, classy, intimate, high-quality restaurant with an exceptional dining set-up. Dining here is an experience, a kind of sitting- at your- best- friend's or family's kitchen table where you feel and taste that the food contains love. Are you looking for something different, an ecstatic foody trip, than this is where you need to go.**

The 7-8 course gastronomic journey will start with sparkling wine at the patio of The Kitchen Table's new location at Paradise Beach Villas as of 6.45PM. Around 7.00PM guests will be guided for a memorable dinner on the second floor of the other popular restaurant Asi es mi Peru. The dining concept reflects extraordinary, elegant and exquisite dishes from the Caribbean, Peruvian fusion and international cuisine created by the owners, Chef David Lizano and his team. To pair the perfect wines three sommeliers were invited to make the section.

The interior of the restaurant is if you were in an elegant establishment in Lima, the capital city of Peru. You feel elevated in the top of the building where dinner takes place in an intimate setting. The typical, colorful Peruvian fabrics dress the ceiling while the large windows dignify the room. There are only 16 seats available creating an intimacy underlined by the owner's personal attention. "This is an amazing experience," says Robert J. Giordanella from New York. "The food is truly divine," shares a local guest. An evening at The Kitchen Table will be noted as unforgettable in your book of vacation memories, as it stands out from the regular island dinners.



### It is all about consistency

The Peruvian-born Roxanna Salinas and her husband Jan van Nes are the secret formula behind The Kitchen Table's success. The couple takes a personal approach to what they do, this is not about running a business as usual. This is more about making you feel welcomed home, as well as being pampered. They bring top hospitality, experience and authenticity to the table. Within this gourmet dinner concept the two blended the Peruvian culinary art of Roxanna's top kitchen team and Jan's expertise from The Kitchen Table. The result is one big trip of delight, indulge and tickling of your taste buds. The Kitchen Table welcomes you with open arms every Tuesday to Saturday.

### Peruvian touch

In the last ten years, Peru has been recognized as one of the world's best culinary destinations, and for seven consecutive years, the South American country has won the award for the Best Culinary destination at the Worlds Travel Awards. Biodiversity combined multiculturalism are the reasons why Peru is so rich in gastronomy. You can travel through the last 500 years, touch a mix of cultures whenever you taste authentic Peruvian cuisine. The Kitchen Table brings this epicurean delicacies to Aruba paired perfectly with the best wines and they will make you understand why Peru is at the height of today's gastronomy.

The Kitchen Table is open from Tuesday to Saturday. Have a peak on their website [www.thekithcentableinaruba.com](http://www.thekithcentableinaruba.com) or call them at +297-5932173. □





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The Collectables

## The Judge's love coming to Aruba

**PALM BEACH** — Recently, Kimberley Richardson of the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure to honor Aruba's loyal and friendly visitors as Distinguished Visitors of Aruba. The symbolic Distinguished Visitor certificate is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba 10 years and more consecutively.

The honorees were **Jim & Robin Judge** from USA. They have been visiting the island for 15 years now and, in just 5 more years they will be entitled to receive the Goodwill Ambassador certificate. The Goodwill Ambassador certificate is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba 20 years and more consecutively.

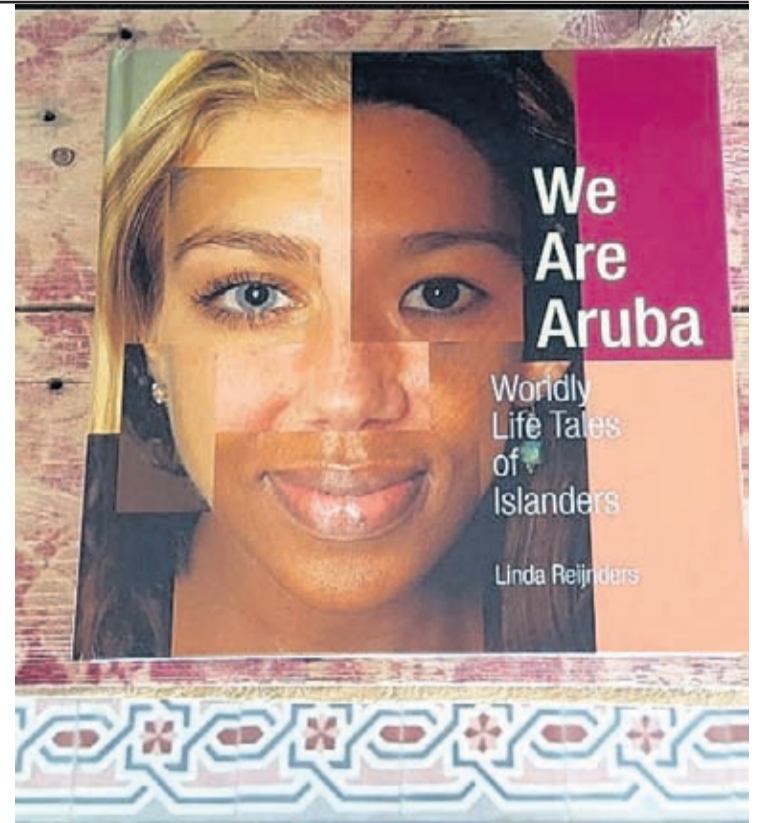
This lovely couple stated that they love the island very much, especially for its beautiful weather, nice sandy beaches, lovely sunsets, delicious variety of food and Aruba's warm and friendly people who have become family to them.

Richardson together with the representatives of the Marriott Aruba Ocean Club presented the certificate to the honorees, handed over some presents and also thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination and as their home-away-from-home. □





## Happy Island miracles in pictures & words



ORANJESTAD - Books, they can shake your world upside down. A good book is changing your mood like that perfect vacation spot that energizes your spirit. Take these two together and what you get is a vacation book, a memory of that wonderful, heavenly place where you spent your valuable leisure time. Aruba Today dived into a local book store and wondered what Aruba books blow the visitor's mind. Sylvia Wouters, store manager at Bruna Book Store, gladly helped us out and informed us about a small selection of Happy Island miracles in pictures and words.

### Bird Wildlife of Aruba Hardcover by Greg Peterson

Popular book that gives an overview of Aruba's birds together with descriptions. The book contains full page photographs of over two hundred species of birds taken in Aruba's wildlife. A checklist, for scientific and educational purposes, is at the end of the book containing the names of all bird species that can be found in Aruba. Where possible, the status (resident, migrant, and vagrant, introduced) and abundance (common, fairly common, uncommon, scarce, and rare) of the particular bird species will be added to the checklist.

### We Are Aruba by Linda Reijnders

Worldly life tales of islanders that come from 76 different countries. This is a book that tells the stories of immigrants who make up for the multicultural society that Aruba is. A world within an island, a cocktail of people. The book is visibly enriched with a picture of each interviewed immigrant and an image of her/his country as well as a map with the country's location. In the back you will find a list with all nationalities living in the island and their numbers. □

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## A weekly calendar with a selection of what's going on in Aruba



### Wednesday 08 Salsa Night at Bugaloe

- Join our weekly FREE Salsa workshop! Every Wednesday we will show you the ins and outs of Latin dancing. The whole night Salsa music will be played to set the mood. Whether you want to dance the night away or just relax and enjoy the tunes of salsa music, it's a perfect night out.
- From 8:30pm-9:30pm
- Bugaloe
- Facebook: Bugaloe



### Sunday 12 Aruba Ostrich Farm

- Yes, Aruba has Ostriches and these can be found at the Aruba Ostrich Farm. Tours available every 30 min where you will be able to feed the ostriches. Also grab a bite at the bar or take home a memory from the souvenir art shop.
- 9am-4pm
- Aruba Ostrich Farm (Matividiri 57)
- Facebook Aruba Ostrich Farm



### Thursday 09 Shortcutz Amsterdam Int'l Audience Award

- Movie screening of the Shortcutz Amsterdam Int'l Audience Award Contenders. Come watch and vote for your favourite film. Presented by Shortcutz Aruba
- 8 - 10pm
- BAZ-RRR Galleria & Brasserie
- Facebook: BAZ-RRR Galleria & Brasserie (Emmastraat 3)

### Monday 13 Museum Monday

- Visit the Historical Museum of Aruba at Fort Zoutman, the oldest building in Oranjestad and home of Aruba's Historical Museum
- 9Am - 6pm
- Oranjestad
- Facebook Museo Historico Aruba: Fort Zoutman & Willem III Toren



### Friday 10 Carnival Prins & Pancho Election 2020

- Children, Youth & Grand Prins & Pancho Election for Aruba's 66th Carnival. The Carnival Prins & Pancho are the Royal Carnival representatives, masters of ceremonies, respected entertaining directors and the face of the Aruba Carnival.
- From 7pm-2am
- Carnival Village, San Nicolas
- Facebook: SMAC

### Saturday 11 Children & Youth Calypso & Roadmarch Contest 2020

- The island's talented kids from 8 - 15 years of age show their artistic skills as they sing to compete for the honor of King or Queen of Calypso or Roadmarch. The contest consists of 3 categories. Pre-Children, Children & Youth.
- From 5-11pm
- Carnival Village, San Nicolas
- Facebook: SMAC



### Tuesday 14 Italy for a night at Casa Nonna

- Take a genuine trip to the most emblematic corners of Italy enjoying a 4-course menu inspired by Sicily at Casa Nonna New York.
- From 5 to 10pm
- The Ritz-Carlton, Aruba
- Facebook The Ritz-Carlton, Aruba



# SPORTS



## Reed digs himself a hole that will be hard to escape

By DOUG FERGUSON  
AP Golf Writer

**HONOLULU (AP)** — Patrick Reed needed a 12-foot birdie putt to win at Kapalua and return at least some attention to his bullish brand of golf.

It was an untimely miss in so many ways.

Not only did it give Justin Thomas a third chance in the playoff, which he won with a sublime sand wedge to 3 feet for birdie, it was enough time for one fan to shout the word that so many others have only whispered.

CHEATER!

The man didn't say it until the putt on the final hole — a birdie Reed knew he needed to keep playing — was halfway to the hole. But it was ugly.

It was far worse than another word often thought but rarely screamed — choke — because it speaks more to character than performance. In golf, only one is fleeting.

Reed glared up at the stands. NBC announcer Dan Hicks seized on it immediately, and before long Golf Channel was rolling the tape.

Thomas says he heard nothing, perhaps caught up in his own duties, which was making a 3-foot putt into a strong gust to win the Sentry Tournament of Champions. Next up for Reed is the Sony Open this week in Honolulu, another chill crowd, though that's what everyone thought about Kapalua.

Continued on Page 23



## SPUR TO ACTION

### Spurs' season-best 3-point shooting does in Bucks, 126-104

San Antonio Spurs guard DeMar DeRozan (10) is fouled by Milwaukee Bucks center Brook Lopez (11) during the first half of an NBA basketball game in San Antonio, Monday, Jan. 6, 2020.



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## Russia, Australia, Serbia, Britain into ATP Cup quarters

**SYDNEY (AP)** — Daniil Medvedev helped Russia to a 3-0 sweep of its pool matches to join Australia, Serbia and Britain in the quarterfinals of the inaugural ATP Cup on Tuesday. Medvedev clinched victory against Norway by beating Casper Ruud 6-3, 7-6 (6) in Perth. Karen Khachanov had already routed Victor Durasovic 6-2, 6-1.

The fifth-ranked Medvedev will join Serbia's Novak Djokovic, undefeated Australia and probably Rafael Nadal in Sydney for the knockout stages starting on Thursday. Only an unlikely 3-0 loss to Japan on Wednesday would stop Nadal and his Spanish Davis Cup-winning teammates from making the quarterfinals.

Australia will play Britain for a spot in the final four after Britain swept past Moldova 3-0 without dropping a set and then took advantage of Bulgaria losing to Belgium 2-1 to finish first in Group C. After David Goffin beat Grigor Dimitrov 4-6, 6-2, 6-2, Belgium rallied from a match and a set down to take the group match in Sydney.

The loss was costly for the previously unbeaten Bulgarians, who fell to third in their group and out of contention for a quarterfinal spot as one of the best two group runners-up. Australia, which had al-

ready qualified for the quarterfinals by topping Group F, clinched a win over Greece in Brisbane where Nick Kyrgios defeated a hot-tempered Stefanos Tsitsipas. Kyrgios returned from a back injury to claim a 7-6 (7), 6-7 (3), 7-6 (5) win at Pat Rafter Arena. After losing the first set, Tsitsipas slammed his racket into the bench, accidentally hitting his father and Greece captain Apostolos Tsitsipas on the forearm. His father walked away briefly before Tsitsipas' mother, Julia, emerged from the crowd to stand behind the bench and criticize her son for his behavior.

Earlier, John Millman of Australia beat Michail Pervolarakis 4-6, 6-1, 7-6 (1). British No. 1 Dan Evans outclassed Radu Albot 6-2 6-2 to clinch their match after Cameron Norrie downed Alexander Cozbinov by the same scoreline.

Britain captain Tim Henman said he's looking forward to the quarterfinal against Australia.

"I have a lot of history with (Australia captain) Lleyton (Hewitt) and everyone knows the team well. It would be a big challenge, but we would love that opportunity," Henman said.

Also in Brisbane, Canada eliminated Germany 2-1. Alexander Zverev made seven double faults in losing to Denis Shapovalov



Russia's Daniil Medvedev returns a shot against Norway's Casper Ruud during their ATP Cup tennis match in Perth, Australia, Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2020.

Associated Press

6-2, 6-2 after Jan-Lennard Struff put Germany ahead defeating Felix Auger-Aliassime 6-1, 6-4.

But Zverev's loss and a 6-3, 7-6 (4) doubles win for Shapovalov and Auger-Aliassime over Kevin Krawietz and Andreas Mies gave Canada the win.

With a 2-1 record in pool play, Canada can still qualify for the quarterfinals as one of the best two group runners-up.

Zverev has 31 double faults in 31 service games in the tournament. He said an offseason exhibition tour in South America with Roger Federer left him behind in his preparations.

"I had like five days less than I normally have ... I didn't practice a lot of tennis," he said. "You can see that on the tennis court. There are a lot of things that I still need to improve." In the night match at Perth,

Italy took a winning 2-0 lead over the United States. Fabio Fognini beat John Isner 6-4, 7-6 (5) and Stefano Travaglia defeated Taylor Fritz 7-6 (3), 7-6 (1).

The six group winners and two best second-place finishers advance. Two quarterfinals are set for Thursday and two more on Friday. The semifinals are on Saturday and the final on Sunday at Ken Rosewall Arena. □



# Spurs hit 19 3-pointers to stop NBA-best Bucks

By The Associated Press

**SAN ANTONIO (AP)** — DeMar DeRozan had 25 points and the San Antonio Spurs hit a season-high 19 3-pointers to beat Milwaukee 126-104 on Monday night, snapping the Bucks' five-game winning streak. Patty Mills added 21 points, shooting 6 of 10 on 3-pointers, for San Antonio (15-20). LaMarcus Aldridge and Rudy Gay added 18 points each.

The Spurs finished 19 for 35 on 3s and shot 51% overall. Giannis Antetokounmpo had 24 points, 12 rebounds and eight assists for Milwaukee. Donte DiVincenzo added 16 points.

The Bucks, whose previous loss was on Christmas at Philadelphia, maintain the NBA's best record at 32-6.

Milwaukee defeated San Antonio 127-118 on Saturday at home but could not maintain its early momentum in a rare home-and-home set of back-to-back games.

**76ERS 120, THUNDER 113**

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)** — Joel Embiid scored 18 points while playing with a dislocated left ring finger, Ben Simmons had 17 points and 15 rebounds, and Philadelphia ended a four-game losing streak by beating Oklahoma City.

The 76ers lost all four games on a trip that knocked them down the Eastern Conference standings and raised questions about how far this team can go in the playoffs.

They usually last in the post-season as long as a healthy Embiid can take them. The All-Star center dislocated his left ring finger in the first quarter, an injury so gnarly that the bent finger stretched across his pinkie and the sight did a number on gag reflexes for those watching at home. Embiid made a brief stop in the locker room, got the finger taped and returned to start the second period.

The Thunder, who had won five straight, closed within two with three minutes left before the Sixers scored nine straight points to put the game away.



Philadelphia 76ers' Joel Embiid looks at his injured finger during the first half of an NBA basketball game against the Oklahoma City Thunder, Monday, Jan. 6, 2020, in Philadelphia.

Associated Press

Steven Adams had 24 points and 15 rebounds for Oklahoma City, and Chris Paul scored 18.

Josh Richardson scored 23 points for the Sixers, and Simmons fell two assists shy of a triple-double.

**JAZZ 128, PELICANS 126**

**NEW ORLEANS (AP)** — Bojan Bogdanovic scored 35 points, Joe Ingles added 22 and Utah extended its winning streak to six games by holding off New Orleans. Brandon Ingram had 35 points for the Pelicans but could not convert a driving layup attempt at the horn while being defended by Rudy Gobert.

The Utah center was chasing Ingram down the right side of the lane and appeared to make body-to-body contact that forced Ingram over the baseline as he attempted to take the final shot. As the horn sounded, Pelicans players leaped off the bench pleading for a foul call while Utah players celebrated Gobert's defensive play and quickly disappeared down the tunnel. Officials briefly went to the scorer's table to check if there should be any time left and then ruled the game over, eliciting a cascade of boos from the crowd.

Gobert had 19 rebounds and Donovan Mitchell

capped a 19-point night with a driving floater in the lane that broke a 126-all tie with 1:12 left and wound up being the winning basket in a game that had 18 lead changes and 11 ties.

**WIZARDS 99, CELTICS 94**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Missing star guard Kemba Walker, the Boston Celtics became the latest NBA contender to surprisingly come up short against one of the league's worst teams, losing to the Washington Wizards as Ish Smith scored 27 points to lead a depleted lineup.

Walker sat out his third game in a row with the flu, and while the Celtics won the previous two -- against also-rans Atlanta and Chicago -- they couldn't overcome poor shooting, a slow start and a whole lot of Smith.

One game after pouring in a career-high 32 points as a reserve, Smith again came off the bench to pace the Wizards. The 31-year-old guard even heard "M-V-P!" chants in the fourth quarter, when he scored 14 points, including 10 straight for the Wizards during one 5-for-5 shooting stretch.

That allowed Washington to regain an edge after an 11-point halftime lead had dwindled to zero when Jaylen Brown's 3-pointer made it 80-all with eight minutes

left.

Brown scored 23 points but shot 7 for 22. Marcus Smart was 3 for 14, Jayson Tatum went 8 for 20 and Gordon Hayward was 4 for 11, including an air ball on a wide-open 3 attempt with under 90 seconds remaining.

**MAVERICKS 118, BULLS 110**

**DALLAS (AP)** — Luka Doncic scored 21 of his 38 points in the third quarter and had his NBA-leading 11th triple-double of the season to lead Dallas past Chicago. Doncic scored 17 of the Mavericks' 19 points in the final 5:35 of the third to break open what had been a tie game. His 3-pointer gave Dallas a 72-69 lead it did not relinquish.

The 20-year-old added 11 rebounds and 10 assists for the Mavs, who played without Kristaps Porzingis for the fourth straight game because of right knee soreness.

Dwight Powell added 16 points for Dallas on 6-for-6 shooting from the floor and 4-for-4 from the line.

The Bulls lost forward Wendell Carter Jr. to an apparent right ankle injury with 8:25 left in the third quarter. He was taken off the court in a wheelchair.

Lauri Markkanen led the Bulls with 26 points, starting the game despite spraining his left ankle Saturday night

against Boston.

**NUGGETS 123, HAWKS 115**

**ATLANTA (AP)** — Nikola Jokic scored a career-high 47 points, Will Barton added a season-best 28 and Denver held on to beat Atlanta.

The Nuggets, coming off a surprising loss at Washington two nights earlier, have won four of six to improve to 25-11, second-best in the Western Conference. Atlanta, worst in the NBA at 8-29, has dropped 11 of 13. Trae Young finished with 29 points and Kevin Huerter had 22 for the Hawks.

Jokic surpassed his previous career high of 41 points with a putback that gave Denver a 114-109 lead with 3:14 remaining.

**MAGIC 101, NETS 89**

**ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)** — Markelle Fultz scored a career-high 25 points, including seven straight during a 15-1 run in the fourth quarter that sent Orlando past slumping Brooklyn.

Nikola Vucevic had 24 rebounds and 11 points for his 300th career double-double, and the Magic pulled away in the final seven minutes after going 9:20 without a field goal.

Joe Harris and Spencer Dinwiddie scored 16 apiece for the Nets, who lost their sixth straight game after charging back from a 16-point deficit to take a lead in the fourth quarter.

Seven players scored in double figures for the Magic. D.J. Augustin came off the bench to contribute 16 points and five assists.

Fultz, the top pick in the 2017 NBA draft, shot 11 for 20 with four assists and two steals.

**PACERS 115, HORNETS 104**

**CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)** — T.J. Warren scored 30 of his season-high 36 points in the second half and Indiana topped Charlotte to halt a two-game skid.

Domantas Sabonis added 18 points, 12 rebounds and seven assists, and Miles Turner had 15 points and nine rebounds for the Pacers, who had lost four of five. The Pacers, who are 15-4 at home, improved to 8-10 on the road. □



# McDavid leads Oilers past Maple Leafs 6-4

**By The Associated Press**  
**TORONTO (AP)** — Connor McDavid had a dazzling goal and three assists, and the Edmonton Oilers cooled off the Toronto Maple Leafs with a 6-4 victory on Monday night. Oscar Klefbom, Darnell Nurse, Kailer Yamamoto, Alex Chiasson and Leon Draisaitl also scored for the Oilers (22-17-5), who were making their third stop on a five-game road trip. Jason Spezza, Frederik Gauthier, Pierre Engvall and Auston Matthews scored for the Maple Leafs (24-14-5), who were 9-0-1 in their last 10 games. McDavid got the puck at Toronto's blue line and used his speed to cleanly beat Morgan Rielly 1-on-1 with a fake to the inside before going wide and snapping the puck into the top corner on Michael Hutchinson

with 8:34 to go in regulation. The goal gave the Oilers a 6-3 lead. Mike Smith made 31 saves in the victory. **ISLANDERS 1, AVALANCHE 0** UNIONDALE, N.Y. (AP) — Semyon Varlamov stopped 32 shots against his former team, earning his second shutout of the season and leading the Islanders to the win. Anders Lee scored for New York, which had lost five of seven overall and four straight at Nassau Coliseum. Varlamov got his 27th career shutout in his first matchup with the Avalanche since signing a four-year deal with the Islanders last summer. Philipp Franouz had 32 saves for Colorado, which had won two in a row. **JETS 3, CANADIENS 2** MONTREAL (AP) — Nikolaj



Edmonton Oilers center Connor McDavid (97) scores against Toronto Maple Leafs goaltender Michael Hutchinson (30) during third-period NHL hockey game action in Toronto, Monday, Jan. 6, 2020.

Associated Press

Ehlers had a goal and an assist, powering Winnipeg to the victory. Andrew Copp and Josh Morrissey also scored for Winnipeg, which had dropped five of six. Captain Blake Wheeler had two assists, and Connor Hellebuyck made 29 saves. Ilya Kovalchuk picked up an assist in his Canadiens debut. He agreed to a

one-year, two-way contract on Friday. Defenseman Ben Chiarot scored twice for Montreal, which has lost six in a row. Carey Price stopped 24 shots. **BLUE JACKETS 4, KINGS 2** LOS ANGELES (AP) — Scott Harrington and Nathan Gerbe scored in the second period and Columbus went on to beat Los Angeles. Kevin Stenlund and

Gustav Nyquist also scored, and Elvis Merzlikins made 35 saves for the Blue Jackets, who are 5-0-3 in their past eight road games. Alex Lafallo scored to extend his point streak to seven games but the Kings lost for the third time in four games. Sean Walker had a goal and an assist, and Jonathan Quick made 20 saves. □

## Predators hire former Devils coach John Hynes as new coach

**NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)** — The Nashville Predators have hired former New Jersey Devils coach John Hynes as the third coach in franchise history after firing Peter Laviolette. The Predators announced the hiring Tuesday before a morning skate. Nashville hosts Boston on Tuesday night. "John Hynes is a bright young coach and great leader who has a track record of both effectively developing young players and successfully motivating veterans," Nashville general manager David Poile said in a statement. "We love his coaching resume and are confident that he has learned from every stop during his career, and has the best skill set to get the maximum potential out of our team."

Poile fired Laviolette and assistant coach Kevin McCarthy on Monday after the Predators (19-15-7) had dropped four of five. They are 11th in the Western Conference standings with 45 points. "This is a tremendous opportunity to join an organization with a history of success, a team with immense talent and a phenomenal fan base," Hynes said. "This organization has a strong foundation, from its ownership and executives to the entire front-office staff, and I'm excited to come in and try to maximize this team's abilities." Hynes, 44, was 150-149-5 as head coach with the New Jersey Devils, who fired him Dec. 3 despite signing him to a multiyear extension last January. He was let go after a 9-13-4 start

that left New Jersey in last place in the Metropolitan Division and with the NHL's second-worst record. New Jersey hired Hynes before the 2014-15 season, and he led the Devils to six more points than in their previous season. He guided the Devils to the 2018 playoffs for the first time since 2012 in a season when Taylor Hall won the Hart Trophy for scoring a career-best 93 points in 76 games. He also helped develop Nico Hischier, the No. 1 overall pick in 2017. Hynes was head coach in the AHL of Wilkes-Barre/Scranton for five seasons after being an assistant coach. He also spent nine seasons on the staff of the USA Hockey National Team Development program, including as head coach from 2003-09 work-



In this Monday, Oct. 14, 2019, file photo, New Jersey Devils head coach John Hynes talks to reporters after an NHL hockey game against the Florida Panthers in Newark, N.J.

Associated Press

ing with players like Patrick Kane, Jimmy Howard, Phil Kessel, Jimmy Hayes and Jason Zucker. The native of Warwick, Rhode Island, was coach when the Americans won the 2004 World Junior Championship, their first medal there since 1997. Laviolette went 248-143-60 in 5 1/2 seasons with Nashville, reaching the playoffs each of his first five seasons. The Predators lost to Pittsburgh in six games in the 2017 Stanley Cup Final. They won the Presidents'

Trophy and made it to the second round of the playoffs in 2018. They were eliminated in the first round a year ago. Poile traded away defenseman P.K. Subban, Nashville's highest-paid player, and signed free-agent forward Matt Duchene to a \$56 million, seven-year contract on July 1. But the Predators sputtered through the first half of this season. They hadn't won more than two straight games since a four-game streak in late October. □



# XFL to unveil rules innovations when it kicks off next month

**NEW YORK (AP)** — When the XFL debuts in February, it will take a "Star Trek" approach of going where no football league has gone before.

The eight-team league will have options for extra points worth one, two or three points. It will allow double forward passes behind the line of scrimmage. Kickoffs will look way different, in the name of both safety and excitement. Overtime will look like the NHL's version of settling matters with a "shootout." No coin tosses here, with each team getting up to five shots to score from the 5-yard line — similar to World Cup soccer shootouts.

Is it a catch at the sideline? Well, the officiating calls might be easier because the XFL will use the college rule of receivers needing only one foot in bounds rather than the NFL's two-foot rule.

Speaking of officiating, there will be a dedicated ball spotter to ensure a faster tempo that comes with a 25-second play clock. A running clock, too, except in the final two minutes of each half. All replay reviews will be initiated by an officiating booth, with no coaches challenges.

To XFL Commissioner Oliver Luck, a former NFL quarterback and longtime football executive, a speedier game means a more entertaining one.

"From research we had done, fans think there's too much downtime and dead time. I suppose games have gotten longer," Luck says. "We wanted to take



In this Feb. 25, 2019, file photo, XFL Commissioner Oliver Luck gestures during a press conference in Seattle.

a step forward by going back to games under three hours based on all our fan research. More action and more plays speed it up.

"Our data analysts looked at hundreds of games. This makes sense from a flow perspective, TV perspective and fan perspective. And I am looking forward to as we launch, will our players be required to be in better shape? They'll be moving fast and playing with tempo. That is going to be neat; conditioning may play more of a role in our game."

The XFL kicks off on Feb. 8, the weekend after the Super Bowl, seeking more success than its predecessor in 2001 (one season) and last year's Alliance of American Football (less than a season). Its innovations could be a turn-on for

fans who never tire of football. Or they could come off as gimmicks, though the XFL mantra is "no gimmicks — ever."

Luck and Fox analyst Dean Blandino, the former head of NFL officiating now overseeing XFL officiating, believe these and other changes are worth a try. Such as the double forward pass.

"My thought as I watch the game develop, there are more quarterbacks out of the shotgun and already 6 yards back from the line," Luck explains. "You aren't wanting to throw a lateral to a receiver who would have to be 7 yards or more behind the line of scrimmage. I thought to myself that the traditional trick plays would be enhanced. ... We are excited to have that in the repertoire."

The one-foot-in-bounds completions should ease the strain on pass catchers — and officials.

"When you look at the college rule versus the NFL," Blandino says, "it definitely is still a skilled play, but an easier play. But I will say there will be less replay reviews; it's easier to officiate looking for that one body part. I see less controversy in terms of catch/no catch."

Adds Luck: "As we went through this process, we had to keep in mind that players in our league will have played in college, and a vast majority spent time in the NFL, some in the CFL. We had to be somewhat selective in terms of innovations to adopt. They need to be teachable to our players to play fast. We have had our coaches

working with the players on all these innovations to make sure they don't black out and think they are in a different league or back in college."

Luck and Blandino also note that the one-foot catch is safer because the receiver is not dragging his second foot, so he can roll to the ground in a true football fall.

Where fans (and bettors and fantasy players — yes, the XFL is likely to have those, too) might be most intrigued is after touchdowns are scored. There will be no PAT kicks in the XFL. Rather, a scoring team can go for one point from the 2-yard line, two points from the 5 or three points from 10.

Yep, a nine-point lead can be a one-possession game.

"I think it brings strategy into a play that historically has been a simple decision," Luck says. "Even with the NFL moving the extra point kick further away, it's still a 93.6% success rate. A fait accompli."

"We think the tiered extra point brings an element of strategy that will be fascinating to watch. Potential points on the board are exciting plays and will add an exciting element to our game."

"One coach said he is thinking if his team scores on defense it is such a shift in momentum, and he would use those opportunities to go for three, even if in the first quarter."

Are all of the XFL's changes going to be an enticement for fans? Luck, Blandino and company will begin finding out in a month. □

Associated Press

# Naomi Osaka wins 1st-round match at Brisbane International

**ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)** — National Women's Soccer League President Amanda Duffy is stepping down to become executive vice president of the Orlando Pride.

Duffy will take over front office and technical duties for the Pride and represent the team on the NWSL board.

She'll report to Orlando City

chief executive officer Alex Leitao.

"As this position came into the Club's plans, and as I learned more about the broader goals of the collective organization, it was clear to me that the club is prepared to invest deeply in the women's game, and in the Pride specifically," Duffy said in a statement. "This investment, com-

bined with the chance to work with Alex's leadership, a world-class roster, and intensely passionate fans, made the decision to come to Orlando one of tremendous excitement and an immense honor."

Duffy, 39, has served as the league's president for the past year.

She joined the NWSL in 2017 as managing director of

operations.

The NWSL, entering its eighth season, has already lasted longer than any other women's professional soccer league in the United States.

Featuring players from the U.S. and Canadian national teams, the NWSL has seen attendance at games grow by more than 70% since the league was

founded in in 2013.

The NWSL is currently without a commissioner. The position has been vacant since Jeff Plush left in 2017, although Duffy had assumed many of his duties.

Duffy will remain in her role with the league through mid-February while the search for a commissioner continues, the league said Tuesday. □





Matthias Walkner of Austria rides his KTM motorbike during stage three of the Dakar Rally in Neom, Saudi Arabia, Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2020.

Associated Press

## Sainz latest new leader after Dakar Rally 3rd stage

### NEOM, Saudi Arabia (AP)

— Two-time winner Carlos Sainz became the third new leader of the Dakar Rally after winning the third stage ahead of defending champion Nasser Al-Attiyah on Tuesday.

Sainz and Al-Attiyah vied for the lead throughout the 427-kilometer loop out from and back to Neom near Saudi Arabia's northern border with Jordan.

Sainz prevailed after nearly four hours, beating Al-Attiyah by 3 1/2 minutes on a course with a fast first half and mountainous second. Jakub Przygonski, who endured six hours of mechanical problems on the first stage, was third. Former Formula One driver Fernando Alonso was fifth.

Overnight leader Orlando Terranova was nearly 13 minutes behind Sainz on the stage and dropped to third overall, eight minutes back.

Sainz led Al-Attiyah by nearly five minutes overall. The motorbike standings had to be modified because of GPS problems. Organizers used the times after 389 kilometers.

That reduced Ricky Bra-

bec's commanding victory from 10 minutes to six over Honda teammates Jose Ignacio Cornejo and Kevin Benavides.

The change also benefited defending champion Toby Price and Xavier de Soultrait. They were originally 35 and 48 minutes off the pace, but that was reduced to 8 1/2 and nearly 14 and they stayed in the top eight.

Brabec took over the lead in the general standings, nearly five minutes ahead of Benavides. Matthias Walkner was third. Price was less than 12 minutes back.

Ross Branch, the winner of stage two, slammed his back wheel into a rock while taking a corner too wide after 88 kilometers and fell and hurt his shoulder.

He finished, though, unlike others who crashed and had to withdraw, including Guillaume Cholet, Adrien van Beveren, Olaf Harnsen, and Martien Jimmink. De Soultrait also fell but finished with a tourniquet on his bleeding right arm.

The rally finishes on Jan. 17. □



Patrick Reed reacts to missing his putt on the third playoff hole on the 18th green during final round of the Tournament of Champions golf event, Sunday, Jan. 5, 2020, at Kapalua Plantation Course in Kapalua, Hawaii.

Associated Press

### Continued from Page 18

Still to come is Pebble Beach and the TPC Sawgrass, Harding Park for the PGA Championship and Winged Foot for the U.S. Open.

Reed really dug himself a hole in the Bahamas, and there's no easy way out.

It started with a shot from the sand in a waste area left of the 11th fairway at the Hero World Challenge, the unofficial event hosted by Tiger Woods as a holiday gift to 18 players who get \$100,000 for finishing last. Video shows Reed using his wedge to brush away sand behind his ball — twice — before his shot. That's improving his lie, and when shown a replay, Reed accepted the two-shot penalty. He really had no choice.

He did have a choice in how to explain it.

Instead, he claimed his club was far enough behind the ball — holding his hands 8 inches apart — and that he didn't feel it would have affected his lie. That was before he got into the "camera angle" defense, which induced as many snickers as raised eyebrows. Missing was a mea culpa. And it's too late for a mulligan.

The reaction in Australia the following week at the Presidents Cup was predictable because the violation was fresh and the competition

was a team event, and Reed was on the visiting team. The heckling was harsh, and Reed didn't help matters by pretending to use a shovel after winning a hole.

Whether the punishment fits the crime is up for debate.

Reed was penalized two shots. A case could be made that it should have been more like two months. But what recourse does the PGA Tour really have?

Commissioner Jay Monahan was asked about another allegation of cheating, this one at the BMW Masters in Shanghai in 2013 when Simon Dyson marked his ball, and then quickly reached over and used the ball to tamp down a spike mark in the line of his short putt.

He was disqualified the next day because of an incorrect scorecard, a rule that no longer exists. Dyson appeared before a three-member disciplinary panel — effectively a trial — and ultimately was given 18 months of probation during which he would be suspended two months for any rules violation.

The tour has no such tribunal. It has a commissioner. "Golf is a game of honor and integrity, and you've heard from Patrick," Monahan said Sunday at Kapalua. "I've had an oppor-

tunity to talk to Patrick at length, and I believe when he says that 'I did not intentionally improve my lie.' And so you go back to that moment."

That moment was in front of a TV screen, the evidence laid bare with rules official Slugger White ready to slap him with a two-shot penalty unless Reed could make a case. There was none to be made. He accepted the penalty. For Monahan to punish him further is effectively calling Reed a liar. He can't do that. No one can with absolute certainty. They can only think it.

The question now is how many will say it to him.

And then it becomes a matter of how long Reed can take it.

He seems to play at his best when the world is against him, and that's what he did Sunday at Kapalua. His 66 in the final round matched the low score of the tournament. Joaquin Niemann shot 66 in breezy conditions on Thursday. Reed shot 66 in 35 mph gusts three days later.

Thomas, and then Xander Schauffele, let him into the three-man playoff, and Reed nearly pulled it off. He twice had putts to win, from 30 feet for eagle on the first extra hole at the par-5 18th, and from 12 feet for birdie on the second playoff hole. □





## How your body Detoxifies

By Carlos M Viana, OMD, CCN

**Detoxification is one of the more widely used concepts in natural medicine. In regular, allopathic medicine 'detox' refers to the medical treatment of an alcoholic or drug addict involving abstinence from drink or drugs until the bloodstream is free of toxins. Natural medicine believes that illnesses can be caused by the accumulation of harmful substances (toxins) in the body. In my 3-Step Biocompatible Medicine protocol, Step #1 is Identify and Eliminate toxins.**

There is no "magic pill" or procedure that instantly cleans your body from all the accumulated poisons. Think all the ways waste needs to be removed from your home. There is toilet waste, shower and sinks; food, paper and packaging waste. Laundry and dishes, gardens, outdoor spaces need to be weeded and cleaned and don't forget endless dusting. Cleaning around your house requires daily, weekly and seasonally attention not to become an overwhelming mess. Cleansing your body is no different. The first step is to drink enough mineral water, daily. Water is considered the greatest solvent in

the world because it dissolves more substances than any other liquid. As water travels through your body, it takes along with it vitamins and nutrients that are vital to life. Water dilutes the concentration of a liquid. I have had patients, having to take medication for "thick blood", who resolved their blood thickness by drinking more water. Enough water daily is: 1Qt./liter of mineral water for every 66lbs./30kg. of body weight. If you have trouble drinking sufficient water, you can try adding fresh lemon juice, this is especially important for blood type A and AB, who's body's do not produce enough stomach acid. You actually treat acid with acid, but, be careful to choose a "good" acid like fresh lemon or lime or natural apple cider vinegar. This is a good "cleanser" helping balance the body's PH levels taken in the morning upon waking. Elimination of fried, convenience, junk foods is the next thing after water to detoxify the body. When junk food is consumed, the excess fat, carbohydrates, and processed sugar contribute to an increased risk of obesity, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, weight gain, and many other chronic health conditions. All these medical risks lower your body's ability to remove toxic poisons.

Your immune system begins to develop the day you are born when your mother's bacteria reaches your colon and stimulates the immune cells in the wall of the colon. Up to 70% of your immune system lives in the wall of the colon. Therefore, for it to be performing well and helping you to fight the deluge of viruses and bacteria, your digestive system needs to be in tiptop condition.

Constipation will have a negative effect on your immune system. First, constipation slows down the movement within your intestines, which means that food matter and waste gets stuck preventing absorption of nutrients needed to support the immune system. Other effects of constipation are inflammation and bloating. Over time this will weaken your immune system, making you more susceptible to viruses.

Colon Hydro-Therapy, or a "Colonic" done by a certified professional is a great way to clean or detoxify the body. As a Colon Hydro-Therapist, I witness small miracles washing the colons of sick patients. "Out of fashion" but our grandparents remember a smaller, home version of this as an enema. I do not recommend the modern pharmacy version of this; some enema


bottles come with a prepared solution. This "solution" can be irritating and I recommend, using just clean, warm water. In some cases a "coffee enema" is recommended, but a professional should supervise this. Colon therapy washes the colon with warm water to clean out old waste and toxins. After treatment, we then give pro-biotics (pro=for, biotic = life/ "For Life"). The most well known is acidophilus. This helps replenish the beneficial bacteria in your colon's immune system. I recommend acidophilus anytime an antibiotic is taken to offset the negative side effects of the drug.

Many of our patients have lost their gallbladder or the liver is so overworked attempting to clean toxins, it is not able to produce healthy bile. Your liver is responsible for cleaning toxins and wastes from your blood, and separating the useful nutrients to synthesize hundreds of chemicals that your body needs for daily functioning. Your liver also activates and regulates hormones.

Your liver detoxifies harmful substances in two steps. The first step uses enzymes from the pancreas and oxygen to burn toxins, especially fats, so they are more soluble, making them easier to eliminate. If your pancreas is not working properly, it cannot produce the enzymes for digestion and detoxification. In this case we recommend taking natural digestive enzymes with meals as support. Without a gall bladder is it important to supplement with lecithin granules. Our clinic uses specialized testing to see the liver's ability to detox properly. With results, we can recommend treatment.

Get The Point! Detoxification is helpful for those suffering from many chronic diseases, including allergies, anxiety, arthritis, asthma, infections, depression, diabetes, headaches, heart disease, high cholesterol, low blood sugar levels, digestive disorders, mental illness, and obesity, as well as for those who have been exposed to high levels of toxic materials due to accident or occupation. However, like keeping your home clean, there are many steps and ways to detoxify. Your body systems are made to keep it running in good condition, but "modern lifestyle can sometimes "clogged up" the natural process so it may need a little help. Most people should consult with a professional before starting a "detox program." Contact us to help you "Identify and safely Eliminate" toxins from your body safely and effectively. □

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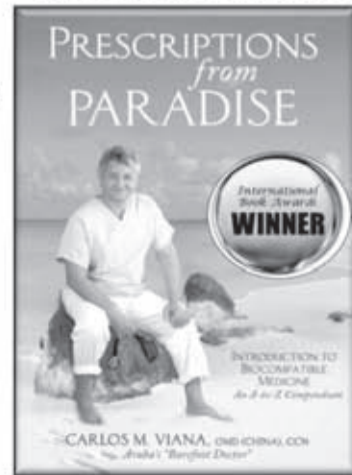


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# Stocks steady, gold pauses rally ahead of next US-Iran move

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Stocks around the world steadied on Tuesday, and gold and crude oil prices took a pause from their recent run as investors wait for the next step in the increasingly tense U.S.-Iran confrontation.

Benchmark U.S. crude was heading for its first drop since before the United States killed Iranian Gen. Qassem Soleimani in a drone strike on Friday, a move that threatened to disrupt oil supplies in the Middle East and caused prices to spurt higher for days. The potential for war also sent dollars flowing out of risky investments like stocks and into gold and other safer harbors.

Asian and European stock markets clawed back some of their losses from Monday, while U.S. indexes were mixed. Nearly two-thirds of the stocks in the S&P 500



In this Jan. 2, 2020, file photo James Riley monitors stock prices at the New York Stock Exchange. Associated Press

fell, and oil companies had some of the biggest declines after weaker crude prices dragged down Exxon Mobil, Chevron and others in the industry. That helped offset modest gains for raw-material producers

and technology stocks. Gold was holding steady a day after touching its highest price in nearly seven years, and Treasury yields were also little changed.

**KEEPING SCORE:** The S&P 500 was down 0.2% as of

noon Eastern time.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 89 points, or 0.3%, to 28,611, and the Nasdaq composite rose 0.1%.

**MARKETS ABROAD:** Asian markets had some of the

day's strongest gains and clawed back much of their sharp losses from Monday. Japan's Nikkei 225 jumped 1.6%, South Korea's Kospi rose 0.9% and Hong Kong's Hang Seng added 0.3%.

In Europe, Germany's Dax returned 0.7%, France's CAC 40 rose 0.1% and the FTSE 100 in London was virtually flat.

**TAKE A BREATH:** Gold slowed its momentum and rose a modest 90 cents to \$1,569.70 per ounce. It had climbed more than \$16 each of the last two days as investors piled into what they thought could hold steady even if a war broke out in the Middle East.

U.S. officials were preparing for an Iranian response to their drone strike against Soleimani and warned ships about the possibility of action against U.S. interests in Mideast waterways or other retaliations. □

# Eurozone inflation hits 6-month high before oil price spike

By PAN PYLAS

**LONDON (AP)** — Inflation across the 19-country eurozone spiked to a six-month high in December even before the recent jump in oil prices in the wake of escalating U.S.-Iran tensions, official figures showed Tuesday.

Statistics agency Eurostat said prices increased across the board during December, helping the annual rate of inflation to rise to 1.3% from the previous month's 1%. Though inflation is at its highest level since June, when it was also 1.3%, it remains way below the European Central Bank's goal of just below 2%.

The core inflation rate, which strips out volatile items such as tobacco and energy, held steady at 1.3%. Though below target, the core rate is above where it has been for much of the last few years, a fact that may cheer some members of the ECB's governing council.

Inflation across the eurozone has remained stubbornly below the ECB's goal for years, prompting the central bank, now under the leadership of Christine Lagarde, to persevere with stimulus measures far longer than its peers, such as the U.S. Federal Reserve. High unemployment, particularly in countries that were at

the forefront of the region's debt crisis last decade, has helped keep a lid on wage increases over the past few years despite a pick-up in economic growth.

With growth now waning around the world, the concern is that any underlying uptick in inflation may stall. That's especially the case should the economic outlook darken further because of growing tensions

in the Middle East following the killing by the U.S. of Iranian general Qassem Soleimani. The rise in tensions has seen the price of oil and gold jump, while stock markets have taken a hit.

"Without material improvement in business confidence and the growth outlook, continued modest price growth seems the most likely scenario for the moment," said Bert Colijn,

senior eurozone economist at ING.

The ECB next meets to decide on interest rates on Jan. 23, when policymakers might have a clearer idea of how things are developing in the Middle East and whether the spike in oil prices is short-lived. Even before the recent increase, energy prices were contributing to a rise in eurozone inflation. □



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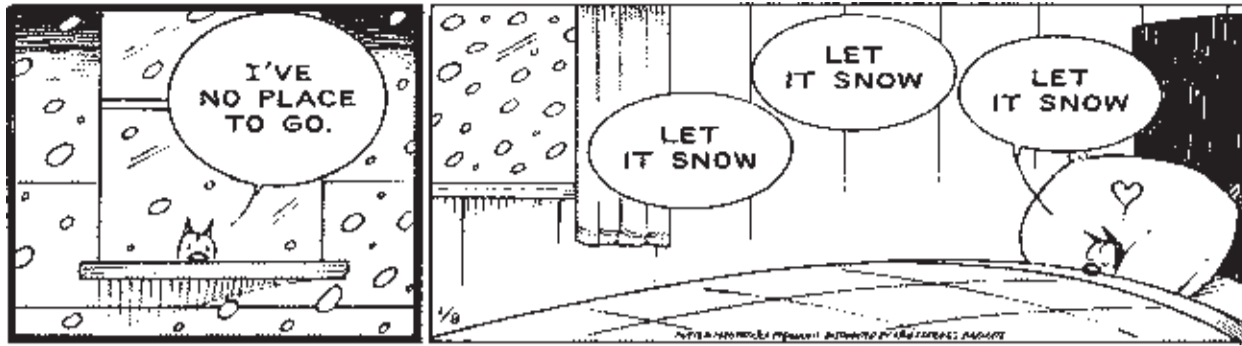
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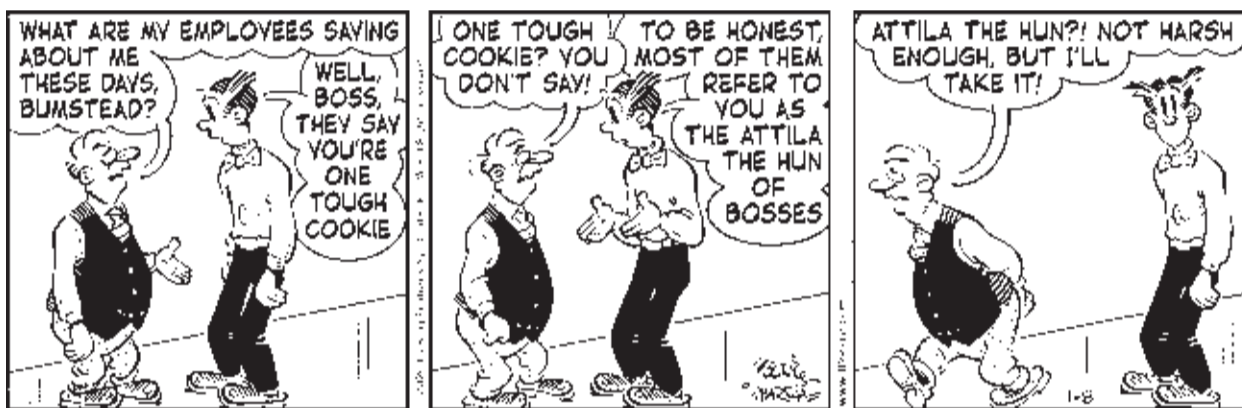
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**Conceptis Sudoku**

		8	9					
		7		2	3			
	4						8	
6	4	9						5
1	5	6	3		8			9
2	5		4				6	
		7					2	
		9	2	6	7	5	4	

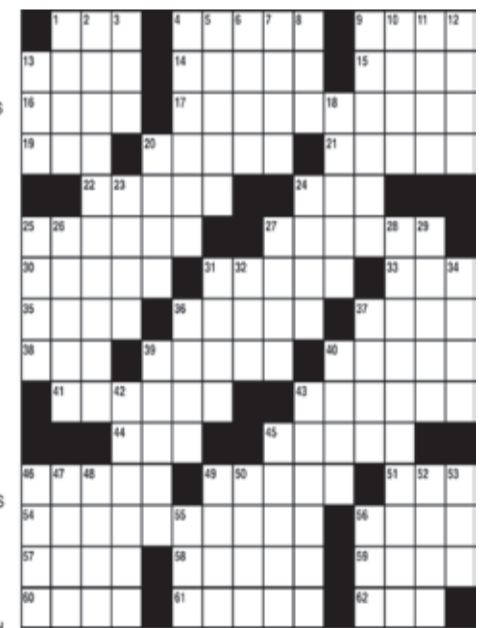
Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

3	2	4	5	7	1	9	8	6
8	5	7	9	2	6	3	1	4
9	1	6	4	3	8	2	7	5
4	3	5	8	6	9	1	2	7
1	7	8	2	5	4	6	3	9
6	9	2	3	1	7	5	4	8
5	6	1	7	8	3	4	9	2
2	8	9	1	4	5	7	6	3
7	4	3	6	9	2	8	5	1

- ACROSS**
- 1 "Be quiet!"
  - 4 Small cutting, as of holly
  - 9 "... well that ends well"
  - 13 Command to a steed
  - 14 Faye or Cooper
  - 15 Chilly
  - 16 "Little Red Riding ..."
  - 17 Nervous wreck
  - 19 However
  - 20 Cash
  - 21 Rejuvenate
  - 22 Thrill
  - 24 Atlas page
  - 25 Children & teens
  - 27 Sweet juice
  - 30 Old saying
  - 31 Fine-tune
  - 33 Butterfly catcher's need
  - 35 Hook, ... and ...
  - 36 Lose one's life at sea
  - 37 "The ... Spangled Banner"
  - 38 Truck scale division
  - 39 ... runner; current leader
  - 40 Shoot from hiding
  - 41 Innumerable
  - 43 Cool creamy dessert
  - 44 Phone inventor's initials
  - 45 State of uncertainty
  - 46 Laziness
  - 49 Backbone
  - 51 TV series for George Eads
  - 54 Cease resisting
  - 56 Street uprising
  - 57 Kiln
  - 58 Word attached to wall or news
  - 59 Linden & Holbrook
  - 60 Orangey drink
  - 61 Ship poles
  - 62 Past one's prime



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

- DOWN**
- 1 Loafer or moccasin
  - 2 Folk singers' gathering
  - 3 "I've ... it"; cry of frustration
  - 4 Wooden shoes
  - 5 Sky sight
  - 6 Stand up
  - 7 Unpleasant
  - 8 Word of mild surprise
  - 9 Agree to take
  - 10 Money lent
  - 11 Misplace
  - 12 Massacre
  - 13 "... Do Fools Fall in Love?"
  - 18 Racecourse
  - 20 Barn mama
  - 23 Theater box
  - 24 Unkind
  - 25 Sweet creamy drink
  - 26 Verbal expression
  - 27 Mr. Gingrich
  - 28 Very aloof
  - 29 Gathers crops
  - 31 Trampled
  - 32 Took first prize
  - 34 Sequoia or sycamore
  - 36 Dull in color
  - 37 Ignore with contempt
  - 39 Battle

**Tuesday's Puzzle Solved**

ALPO	STRAP	FLOP
SOUR	THAIS	RUDE
PONY	REPRIMANDS	
SKI	HISS	ANGST
SHAPE	BIC	
ABHORS	DINERS	
DOMED	TRADE	EER
AXES	SHEDS	MALI
MEN	SLIPS	MOSES
STATEN	DEPOSE	
VOW	GREEN	
ASTER	TREK	APT
PHARMACIES	ABLE	
PENS	COLES	GLEE
TAKE	DOTTY	BEAD

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- 40 Partial amount
- 42 PG or PG-13, e.g.
- 43 The Seven Dwarfs, by trade
- 45 Slightly more than a quart
- 46 Highlander
- 47 Mauna Loa's output
- 48 Daytime shop sign
- 49 ... in the face; insult
- 50 June honoree
- 52 Auctioneer's cry
- 53 "Baby ... You"; Beatles song
- 55 Pkg. delivery service
- 56 Letter from Greece



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 02/21/20 to 02/28/20 (4)

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 \$18 K  
 2 BR Ocean Side Platinum  
 date: 6 march to 13 march 2020

**For Rent**

**Divi Links Golf**  
 2 BR WK 3 sleep 8 \$2 K  
 01/18/20 to 01/25/20  
 Studio wk 7 sleep 4 \$1500  
 02/15/20 to 02/22/20

**La Cabana Beach and Casino**

1 BR wk 3 \$1800  
 01/18/20 to 01/25/20

**Marriott Ocean Club**

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 1 BR Ocean View \$9 K  
 1 BR Ocean Front \$ 20 K  
 2 BR Ocean View \$ 16,5 K  
 2 BR Ocean Front \$26 K

**Marriott Surf Club**

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 2 BR Ocean View \$15,5 K  
 2 BR Ocean Side \$16,5 K  
 2 BR Ocean Front \$26 K  
 3 BR Ocean View \$ 28 K

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 2 BR WK 52 Ocean Front \$85 K  
 2 BR WK 52 Garden View \$45 K  
 2 BR WK 51 /52 Ocean Front \$ 160 K both  
 2 BR WK 7 Ocean View \$45 K

**Aruba Divi Phoenix**

2 BR Lock off wk 51/52  
 building 7 on the 5th floor  
 27 weeks remain \$30 K each  
 or \$ 58 K both all in  
 2 BR PH wk 1  
 building 7 on the 5 th floor  
 28 weeks remain \$45 K

**Aruba Divi Phoenix**

1 BR WK 2  
 building 8 ground floor  
 32 weeks remain \$16 K  
 1 BR WK 8  
 building 6 on the 4th floor  
 27 weeks remain \$15 K  
 1 BR PH wk 8/9 \$12,5 K each  
 14th floor 30/28 weeks remain

**Eagle Resorts**

1 BR wk 51 and 52 \$25 K both  
 1 BR wk 5/6/7/8  
 Ground floor Saturday check in  
 1 BR wk 7 \$7,5 K each

**Divi Links Golf**

Studio wk 2 \$7,5 K  
 Eagle 3 with 23 weeks remain  
 1 BR wk 3 \$8,5 K  
 eagle 3 with 23 weeks remain  
 1 BR WK 8/9 \$ 9,5 K each  
 Eagle 9 with 27 /19 weeks remain

**Divi Links**

2 BR wk 3 \$22 K  
 Eagle 8 with 25 weeks remain  
 1 BR wk 4 \$8 K  
 Birdie 1 with 20 weeks remain

**Divi Village**

Studio wk 1 \$7,5 K  
 building C with 24 weeks remain  
 Studio wk 6 \$7,5 K  
 building F 22 weeks remain

**Dutch Village**

Studio wk 52 \$7,5K  
**Divi Links Golf**  
 studio wk 1 \$7,5 K  
 building 4 28 weeks remain  
 Studio wk 5, 7 and 8 \$8 K each  
 birdie 4 with 28/27/29 weeks remain

**Divi Village**

1 BR WK 1 \$8,5 K  
 Studio WK 1 \$7,5 K  
 building D & F  
 25 weeks remain on each  
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 4th floor Friday check in  
 1 BR WK 52 \$11 K  
 3rd floor Sunday check in

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 \*WK. 52 OV \$49k  
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 2B Oceanside \$8k  
 GV \$5k OV \$7k  
 3BEDRM \$13k

**Marriott Aruba Ocean**

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 2B OF \$26k  
 1B OV \$9k  
 \*\* Destination points \$8 per point  
**GOLD Season**  
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 2B OV \$9k  
 1 Bed \$4k  
 1B OF \$9k

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# SpaceX launches 60 more satellites, trying to tone them down

By **MARCIA DUNN**

**CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla.**

**(AP)** — SpaceX launched 60 more mini internet satellites late Monday, this time testing a dark coating to appease stargazers.

It's a "first step" compromise between SpaceX and astronomers fearful of having dark skies spoiled by hundreds and, eventually, thousands of bright satellites circling overhead.

The Falcon 9 rocket blasted into a cold, clear night sky, recycled by SpaceX for its fourth flight. As the first-stage booster flew to a vertical landing on an ocean platform, the Starlink satellites continued hurtling toward orbit to join 120 similar spacecraft launched last year.

Flight controllers applauded, and the launch commentator described the booster's fourth touchdown as "awesome." An hour later, all 60 satellites were free of their upper stage and making their own way in orbit. "It's a beautiful sight," the commentator observed.

His Starlink fleet now numbering 180, SpaceX founder and chief executive Elon



**A SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket lifts off from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Fla., Monday evening, Jan. 6, 2020. The rocket is carrying 60 Starlink communications satellites.**

**Associated Press**

Musk plans to ultimately launch thousands of these compact flat-panel satellites to provide global internet service. Each spacecraft is just 575 pounds (260 kilograms).

After the first Starlink batch of 60 was launched in May and the second in Novem-

ber, astronomers complained how the bright satellite chain was hampering their observations. In response, SpaceX came up with a darkening treatment to lessen reflectivity. The coating is being tested on one of the newly launched satellites.

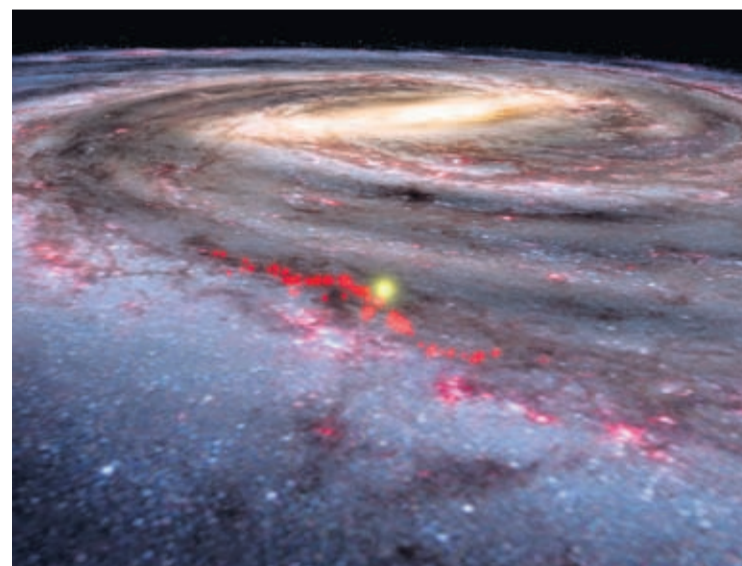
Jeff Hall, director of the Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Arizona, said the Starlinks have been just an occasional problem — so far — but noted the risk to stargazing will grow as the constellation expands and other companies launch their own fleets. He heads

the American Astronomical Society's committee on light pollution, space debris, and radio interference, and is working with SpaceX on the issue. The matter is on the agenda, in fact, at the society's conference in Hawaii this week.

"Anything that darkens the satellites is a step in the right direction," Hall said in an email Monday. He said it's too soon to know whether the dark coating will work, "but it definitely is just a first step and not enough to mitigate the issues astronomy will experience with the Starlinks."

The Starlinks are initially placed in a relatively low orbit of 180 miles (290 kilometers), easily visible as a long, strung-out cluster parading through the night sky. Over a few months, krypton-powered thrusters raise the satellites to a 340-mile (550-kilometer) orbit.

The higher the orbit, the less visible the satellites are from the ground, according to SpaceX. Even so, SpaceX said it's supplying astronomy groups with the satellite coordinates in advance, so they can avoid the bright flyover times. □



**This illustration provided by Harvard shows data from the "Radcliffe Wave," indicated in red, superimposed on an artist's rendering of Milky Way galaxy.**

**Associated Press**

## Titanic wave of star-forming gases found in Milky Way

**CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla.**

**(AP)** — Astronomers have discovered a titanic wave of star-forming gases practically right under our noses in the Milky Way.

Harvard University scientists reported Tuesday that this massive structure has been hiding out in the Milky Way galaxy's spiral arm closest to Earth.

The researchers were building a 3-D map of our galaxy's interstellar matter, using a star census gathered by Europe's Gaia spacecraft when they spotted the wave-shaped structure. It's an astounding 50 quadrillion miles (85 quadrillion kilometers) long and it's home to tens of thousands of baby stars, with the potential for countless

more stellar births, according to the paper published in the journal *Nature*.

All these stellar nurseries, or star-forming blobs of gas, are interconnected, according to Harvard's Catherine Zucker. Together, they form this wavy, gassy filament, why this shape is still a puzzle.

The sun is just 500 light years away from the wave at its closest point, according to lead author Joao Alves.

The team was shocked by the discovery. No one expected "we live next to a giant, wave-like collection of gas — or that it forms the local arm of the Milky Way," Harvard's Alyssa Goodman said in a statement.

What's more, the structure dubbed Radcliffe Wave

— after a Harvard institute — contains stellar nurseries once thought to belong in a ring-shaped band around the sun. The wave contains gases equivalent to 3 million times the mass of the sun.

"It has completely transformed our understanding of our galactic neighborhood," Zucker said in an email. It "has been right in front of our noses ... for millions of years, but we could not see it clearly until now." Launched in 2013, the Gaia spacecraft has measured the distances to close to 1 billion stars in our galaxy, providing a precious, colossal data base for uncovering huge structures like the Radcliffe Wave, according to scientists. □



## T.S. Eliot letters show love for muse but poet downplays it

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)** — Recently unveiled letters from T.S. Eliot to his muse Emily Hale show how much he loved his longtime friend, but a statement from beyond the grave by the poet himself dismisses his feelings and shows how Eliot tries to rewrite the narrative of their relationship, scholars say. Hale donated Eliot's letters to Princeton University Library more than 60 years ago with instructions that they could only be opened 50 years after she and Eliot died.

The day they were made available at the Ivy League school, Eliot's statement, written five years before his death, was released — as per his own instructions. In it, Eliot downplays his love for Hale.

"I came to see that my love for Emily was the love of a ghost for a ghost," he wrote.

Eliot scholar Frances Dickey, who was among the first to read the letters at the New Jersey school Thursday, said it was "unfortunate" that Eliot felt he had to deny his feelings for Hale.

"That seemed a little harsh," Dickey said. "She was his muse for many years."

Letters to Hale from 1930 — contained in the first of 14 boxes — show Eliot confessing his love for her.

"They are extremely passionate," Dickey said. "It's really more than what I expected. They are very emotional, claiming that she inspired a lot of his poetry. She obviously played a really important role in his poetic life."

Dickey said it's become more obvious that the "hyacinth girl" in "The Waste Land," Eliot's most famous poem, is Hale.

Also among the boxes of letters is a manuscript Hale wrote about their relationship. Her account and his early letters trace the same narrative, Dickey said.

In his statement, Eliot does admit he once loved Hale.

"I fell in love with Emily Hale in 1912," he wrote. He told her so two years later.

"I have no reason to believe, from the way in which this declaration was received, that my feelings were returned," Eliot wrote.

He married his first wife, Vivienne Haigh-Wood, in 1915, a year after his declaration. The two had a tumultuous, loveless marriage marred by Haigh-Wood's mental illness and alleged infidelity.



In this file photo, Emily Hale and T.S. Eliot pose in a 1946 family photo in Dorset, Vermont.

Associated Press

They separated in 1933. "Emily Hale would have killed the poet in me; Vivienne nearly was the death of me, but she kept the poet alive," Eliot wrote.

Hale eventually developed feelings for Eliot, but the poet writes that, as time went on, he realized "more and more how little Emily Hale and I had in com-

mon."

"It may be too harsh, to think that what she liked was my reputation rather than my work," he wrote.

Eliot scholar Anthony Cuda called that a "cold and untrue statement."

"He pursued her," he said. "His earliest letters were ardent declarations of love. It's not as if she chased after him." In other letters, Eliot comments on the pain and happiness of intimacy, according to Dickey, and even confesses his craving for alcohol and reveals details about his private life.

Hundreds of letters still need to be read; only a few copies can be seen at a time at the library, and there are no copies available online. There are a few different reasons Eliot might be trying to rewrite history, the scholars say. Hale donated the letters while the two were still alive, and Eliot feared they might be released before the embargo date. Eliot had ordered the letters he'd received from Hale destroyed.

"He was looking back on this and felt embarrassed and ashamed at the openness and vulnerability he allowed to come through at the time," Cuda said. □

## Fox adding 'The Masked Dancer' to 'The Masked Singer'

**PASADENA, Calif. (AP)** — "The Masked Singer" has been such a hit for Fox that the network is doubling down on hidden entertainers.

Fox said Tuesday that it is joining with Ellen DeGeneres to produce "The Masked Dancer," a celebrity competition show based on "The Masked Singer" and a segment that DeGeneres originated on her talk show. Contestants will perform unique dances while covered from head to toe in elaborate costumes and face masks, leaving audiences to guess their identities.

"This is gonna be just as fun and suspenseful as 'The Masked Singer,' with a lot more krumping," DeGeneres said in a statement, referring to a style of street



In a Sunday, Jan. 5, 2020 file photo, Ellen DeGeneres, winner of the Carol Burnett award, poses in the press room at the 77th annual Golden Globe Awards at the Beverly Hilton Hotel, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

dancing, "and I cannot wait!" Meanwhile, Jamie Foxx will join "The Masked Singer" as a guest panelist along with regulars Ken Jeong, Jenny McCarthy, Nicole Scherzinger and Robin Thicke and host Nick Cannon for the show's third season premiere on Feb. 2 after the Super Bowl.

The show will take its regular time slot on Feb. 5.

This season, 18 disguised celebrities will be split into three groups of six, and immediately be whittled down to three singers in each group. The final nine from all three groups will compete for the trophy.

Among the new custom-made costumes for the singers are the Robot, the Frog, the Banana, the Mouse, the monster and the llama. □





The cast and crew of "Once Upon a Time in Hollywood" pose in the press room with the awards for best motion picture, musical or comedy and best screenplay, motion picture, at the 77th annual Golden Globe Awards at the Beverly Hilton Hotel on Sunday, Jan. 5, 2020, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

## Producers, directors guild nominations winnow Oscar field

By **JAKE COYLE**  
Associated Press  
**NEW YORK (AP)** — An unusually busy day in a truncated awards season for Hollywood left five films — Quentin Tarantino's "Once Upon a Time ... in Hollywood," Sam Mendes' "1917," Martin Scorsese's "The Irishman," Bong Joon Ho's "Parasite" and Taika Waititi's "Jojo Rabbit" — at the head of the Oscar pack.

All five were nominated Tuesday for the top prize of both the Directors Guild Awards and the Producers Guild Awards, two of the most reliable Academy Awards bellwethers. All but "1917," which took top honors Sunday at the Golden Globes, have been nominated by the industry's leading three guild awards. The Screen Actors Guild earlier selected "Once Upon a Time .. in Hollywood," "Parasite," "The Irishman" and "Jojo Rabbit" for its biggest award, best ensemble.

Tuesday's rare confluence of announcements puts awards season into hyper speed. The Academy Awards moved up several weeks to Feb. 9 this year, squeezing the pre-Oscars calendar. The British Academy Film Awards also unveiled their nominations Tuesday, with "Joker"

leading all films with 11 nods and an all-white acting field that immediately sparked criticism.

Oscar prognosticators pay particular attention to the Producers Guild, which selects 10 movies for the year. Aside from the above five films, the producers also nominated "Joker," "Marriage Story," "Knives Out," "Little Women" and "Ford v Ferrari" for its annual top prize, the Darryl F. Zanuck Award.

Producers Guild Awards, now in its 31st year, have a history of forecasting the Academy Awards. In 21 out of the last 30 years, the PGA winner has corresponded with the Academy Awards best picture winner, including the last two years: "Green Book" in 2019, "The Shape of Water" in 2018.

Notably missing out Tuesday were "The Farewell," "Bombshell" and "The Two Popes." There chances for a best-picture nomination aren't necessarily over, but seldom does more than one film overlooked by the Producers Guild make it into the Oscar field.

The Directors Guild is also a prominent Oscars predictor. Since 1948, only seven times has the DGA winner not gone on to take the directing Academy Award. Last year, Alfonso Cuaron

won at the DGA Awards before winning the Oscar, too.

In its 71-year history, the Directors Guild has only nominated eight women for best director. The last was Greta Gerwig in 2018 for "Lady Bird," but she didn't make the cut this year for "Little Women."

While female filmmakers had a historic year at the box office in 2019, they have been largely on the outside this awards season. The Globes didn't nominate a woman for best director, or select a female-directed movie for its 10 best picture nominees.

The guild's nominees for best first-time director were more balanced. Up for that award are: Mati Diop ("Atlantics"), Alma Har'el ("Honey Boy"), Melina Matsoukas ("Queen & Slim"), Joe Talbot ("Last Black Man in San Francisco") and Tyler Nilson and Michael Schwartz ("The Peanut Butter Falcon").

The guild nominations arrived just as Oscar voting was closing, with ballots due at the end of Tuesday. Nominations will be announced Monday.

The Producers Guild Awards will take place Jan. 18 at the Hollywood Palladium in Los Angeles. The DGA Awards will be handed out Jan. 25 at the Ritz-Carlton in Los Angeles. □

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	<b>JOJO RABBIT</b> ROMAN GRIFFIN DAVIS   TAIKA WAITITI WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES PBP MON-SUN 2:00   4:25   6:50   9:15
ALSO SHOWING!	<b>RICHARD JEWELL</b> PAUL WALTER HAUSER   SAM ROCKWELL WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES PH MON-SUN 3:20   6:10   9:05
	<b>SPIES IN DISGUISE</b> WILL SMITH   TOM HOLLAND WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES PH MON-THU & SUN 3:40   6:05   8:30 FRI-SAT 3:40   6:05   8:30   10:00 PBP MON-SUN 2:00   4:20   6:40   9:00 PBP MON-SUN 7:45   5:05
	<b>LA PACHANGA</b> ANA MARÍA ARANGO   FRANCISCO BOLÍVAR SPANISH PBP MON-THU & SUN 7:25   9:30 FRI-SAT 7:25   9:30   11:25
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## Seeking the cross: Icy dips mark the feast of Epiphany

By **VESELIN TOSHKOV**  
**SOFIA, Bulgaria (AP)** — Thousands of Orthodox Christian worshippers plunged into the icy waters of rivers and lakes across Bulgaria on Monday to retrieve crucifixes tossed by priests in Epiphany ceremonies commemorating the baptism of Jesus Christ. By tradition, the person who retrieves the wooden cross will be freed from evil spirits and will be healthy throughout the year. After the cross is fished out, the priest sprinkles believers with water using a bunch

of basil. The religious holiday of Epiphany is also celebrated in some Western Christian churches as Three Kings Day, which marks the visit of the Magi, or three wise men, to the baby Jesus, and closes out the Christmas season.

At the Vatican, Pope Francis urged the faithful to reject "the god of money" as well as consumerism, pleasure, success and self. In his Epiphany homily Monday in St. Peter's Basilica, Francis encouraged people to focus on serving others, not

themselves. He urged the faithful to concentrate on the essentials by getting rid of what he calls "useless things and addictions" that numb hearts and confuse minds. Francis said believers should aid those suffering on life's margins, saying Jesus is present in those people. Led by the town's mayor, inspired by bass drums and bagpipes and fortified by homemade plum brandy, they performed a slow "mashko horo," or men's dance, stomping on the rocky riverbed. □



# Pop culture in 2010s marked gains in diversity, inclusion

By JOCELYN NOVECK

**NEW YORK (AP)** — When the family-friendly Hallmark Channel recently pulled, under pressure from a conservative group, a set of ads featuring a kiss between two happy brides at the altar, backlash was swift — to say the least.

Within hours, stars like Ellen DeGeneres and William Shatner were tweeting in protest to their many followers, and LGBT advocates were mobilizing a boycott via social media. This was on Saturday; by Sunday evening, Hallmark had reversed its decision, and apologized for what it acknowledged as a mistake.

Whatever it says about corporate missteps, the episode also says something about how our popular culture has changed in a decade, with diversity and inclusion concerns taking center stage, says Sarah Kate Ellis, president of GLAAD, which advocates for LGBT people in Hollywood and played a key role in Hallmark's reversal.

"This decade has been about diversity and inclusion — at least the starting of the conversation," says Ellis. "Communities who have been left out of the seats at the table for decades and decades are finally starting to find their voice, and their footing." And a major element, obviously, is the power of social media: "It enables us to connect with each other, find each other and organize," Ellis says.

Speaking of viral protests, this was also the decade of #OscarsSoWhite, the hashtag launched by activist April Reign in 2015 when none of the 20 acting nominees were actors of color. Incredibly, the same thing happened in 2016, forcing the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences to launch a major membership overhaul aimed at diversifying its overwhelmingly white, male, older ranks. The following year, "Moonlight," about the coming-of-age of a gay black man, won best picture (after "La La Land" was ... oh, never



This Feb. 26, 2017 file photo shows Barry Jenkins and the cast and crew of "Moonlight" accepting the award for best picture at the Oscars in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

mind) and the winner list was more diverse. But true racial diversity in entertainment remains an elusive goal, despite slow progress. "Things have certainly improved," says Gil Robertson, president of the African American Film Critics Association. "Ten years ago, you didn't have an Ava DuVernay, a Jordan Peele, a Shonda Rhimes, a Kerry Washington," he says. "And my God, you couldn't have even imagined 'Pose,'" he says, referring to the Ryan Murphy TV series set in the '80s ballroom culture with the biggest LG-BTQ cast ever assembled for a scripted show.

"The door has opened," he says, adding that inroads have also been made for Asian American actors and stories, but less so for Latinos. "Has the industry reached the place that we want it to be? No, but things have gotten better." In her speech at the 2018 Oscars, soon after the Harvey Weinstein scandal launched the #MeToo era, Frances McDormand urged women to demand an "inclusion rider" in contracts to help achieve gender parity. Almost two years later, evidence of progress for women in front of and behind the camera is slow but steady. The entry of streaming giants like Netflix has accelerated the pace

of change, says Stacy L. Smith, director of the USC Annenberg Inclusion Initiative at the University of Southern California.

An example: last year, 39 of the top 100 Hollywood films were led or co-led by a female character, Smith says; in 2007 the number was 20, so it has essentially doubled in a decade. And there is progress behind the camera, too. "We're really seeing changes, slow but real significant movement in some of these institutions," she says.

Progress has also been seen in the music business, in diversity of film critics, and in scripted TV, she says. And yet there are areas sorely lacking: representation of female characters over 40 in films, for example, and women of color. And trans women characters are rarely seen in major films.

"Every group should be able to see themselves on-screen," Smith says.

A LONG WAY SINCE "ELLEN"

It's hard to imagine that back in 1997 when DeGeneres came out on her TV show, the words "I'm gay" were so groundbreaking. "We were all but non-existent in popular culture a few decades ago, and now we're very much grounded in popular culture," says Ellis, of GLAAD. While no milestone this

past decade matches the import of that "Ellen" moment, the decade began with the launch — actually in 2009 — of both "Glee," which put a spotlight on LGBT youth, and "Modern Family," which introduced the couple of Mitchell and Cam, two dads who adopt a Vietnamese daughter. "These were really big moments," Ellis says. Another was last year's best-actor Emmy for Billy Porter for "Pose," the first openly gay black man to win the award.

Inroads also were made in children's programming. "Doc McStuffins," the Disney Junior children's cartoon, featured a family led by an interracial, lesbian couple, and the Disney Channel kids' show "Andi Mack" introduced a key gay character.

And it was only a quick glance between male characters, but "Beauty and the Beast" took the plunge and actually showed a gay moment. "It's a step in the right direction," says Ellis. Can Elsa's (hoped-for) coming-out in the "Frozen" franchise be far behind?

Caitlyn Jenner's revelation in 2015 that she was transgender helped shine a light on that community, and popular shows like "Orange Is the New Black," "Transparent" and "Pose" fea-

tured transgender characters. TV, though, has been far ahead of film. "The top Hollywood studios have always been a decade behind," says Ellis. The reasons, she says: a years-long development pipeline for movies, the huge budgets of big films, and Hollywood's fear of breaking its own comfortable formulas. But things are slowly moving.

BEYOND #OSCARSSOWHITE America is increasingly diverse. Movie audiences are increasingly diverse. And diverse movies make money, because people like to see stories and characters that reflect their own lives.

Despite all this, says Darnell Hunt, dean of social sciences at UCLA and an author of the annual Hollywood Diversity Report, progress toward racial diversity in the industry has been frustratingly slow, and lagging behind TV.

In their most recent report, issued in early 2019, the authors write that in Hollywood, "people of color remained underrepresented on every industry employment front in 2016-17."

Looking at the decade as a whole, Hunt notes in an interview that while TV has registered some "notable progress" both in front of and, to a lesser extent, behind the camera, there hasn't been much progress in terms of people of color in executive suites, which are still dominated by white men. And in movies, the situation is worse.

"As the country becomes more diverse, the underrepresentation becomes more severe," he says.

And while his research has found there has been progress over the decade for female directors in the top 200 films, there's been "zero progress" in the percentage of directors of color for the same years (they're both around 12 percent.) And so, he says, a film like "Black Panther," with a star-packed black cast and a black director (Ryan Coogler), is more of an outlier than an example of real change. □



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